

110 Bath No 3
L E T T E R S

B E T W E E N

Mrs. M* K*****,**

A N D

M* W*****,** her Niece,

Published by the Latter,

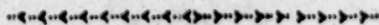
In Vindication of her Conduct.

With EXPLANATORY NOTES.



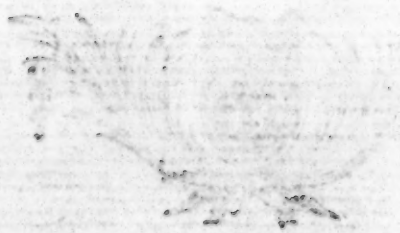
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TO convince the world, that I am not actuated by the vanity of appearing in print to publish the following Letters, I will make this as short as possible: but, as the publishing Family Letters may, and probably will, be thought a very extraordinary step, I think it necessary to inform the reader, (if any should be induced either from friendship to me, or out of curiosity, to dip into them) that my reasons for having recourse to it will be found in my last letter to my Aunt in 1774, that of the 9th of January 1776, and those I wrote to my Uncle. How far I was to blame in writing the first of those Letters to my Aunt, I will not pretend to determine. Whether animosities would have subsided between us, if I had not wrote it, it is now impossible, as I apprehend, to pronounce with any degree of certainty. All I can say to prove the contrary, is, that my Sister, against whom they had no plea, was equally neglected; not one of our Family having taken the least notice of either of us, from December 5th, 1774, until the 31st of July following: and that my Aunt, upon her coming here, very readily engaged in writing to me, notwithstanding, I gave her no room to imagine, I had laid aside the thoughts of the Publication: from whence, I infer, her silence before could not have proceeded from that. These proofs are submitted to the consideration of those who are better acquainted with the world, and more sagacious than I, whether there is any weight in them or not. My disinclination to the step must, I should suppose, sufficiently appear from the time which has elapsed since I first talked of it: I have still protracted, in the hope that an accommodation might take place. But as, now, all prospect of that is shut out; my Aunt too, encroaching upon our liberty in refusing to satisfy us with regard to my Mother's affairs, and by endeavouring to draw Her into signing a ratification of what she has done, when in the course
of

of sixteen years she has never given in one regular account. These, and other provocations, which naturally rouse our apprehensions, and make us dread the consequences of such arbitrary measures, determine me to postpone the Publication no longer;—but, without these circumstances, I flatter myself I can not be condemned, for endeavouring to vindicate myself from the charge of Vice, or Folly: one of which, I must necessarily incur, when it is known, that there is an irreconcilable breach between my Aunt and me.

As to my Letters, I have little more to say for them, than that except two or three, they were not written with a view to being printed; nor, indeed, with an expectation of entertaining: but written, as occasion required, under great depression of spirits, or in a violent hurry: many of them taken from very defective copies, with faults, I have reason to believe, which were not in the originals. Justice demanded there should not be the smallest alteration, and I have sacrificed vanity to justice. I shall only add, that whatever is my lot here, on earth, I trust, I shall hereafter find favour with an All-Seeing, All-Just, and All-Merciful GOD.

LETTERS.



L E T T E R S.

To J—— K——, Esq.

DEAR SIR,

Bath, August 1st, 1775.

I INTENDED writing to you some time ago, but knowing you to be an enemy to trouble, and fearing you might consider my Letter in that light, I determined to postpone it.

But now that I am about taking a step, that it is of the utmost consequence to me should not be misconstrued; and as (excepting my mother) there is no person in the world, whose good opinion I am so much interested in wishing to preserve as yours; you being one of my nearest relations, and consequently I must conclude, one of my best friends: your ability equal to your inclination to promote the interest and welfare of your family: I say, these, and every other consideration; duty, interest, and inclination; all concur in persuading me, that I ought not to neglect any means in my power of satisfying you, with regard to the propriety of my conduct.

The step I am about to take, is, to publish all the letters that have passed between my Aunt and me; in order to convince the world (those in it I mean which know me) that I am not so culpable as they may imagine; or be convinced myself, that I only reap the just reward of my deeds. There is none, I am confident, who entertain stricter notions with respect to private correspondencies than I do; but I shall betray no secrets by doing what I propose, except those of my own immediately family: Thank God, however unfortunate they may prove us, they cannot prove us guilty. Besides, I have already acquainted my aunt with my intention, and she leaves me at liberty to act as I think well, &c.

M---- W-----.

DEAR M——,

— **I** F you mean to raise your own credit in the literary way, or advance against your Aunt a misconduct to you; I am certain in both you will be disappointed; for believe me, very few will read them, and those that do, will laugh at your expence and not your Aunt's: My advice is, that you consider well before you execute. Sister K. gives you full liberty to follow your inclination

in this matter; and if either profit or pleasure are in your scheme, she will chearfully use all her interest to promote the sale of your work, when it contributes to your happiness or emolument.

I take this opportunity of informing you of my intention to pay in the goal. next Michaelmas. You gave me notice some time since;* till now, it has not been in my power to make good that payment. Your informing N----- to whom that money shall be paid will greatly oblige, dear M——, &c.

J. K——.

If in the time I have limited for paying in the goal. you should not find security to your liking, I will enlarge the time to three or six months from Michaelmas, as may best suit you.

Chester, 31st July, 1775.

DEAR SIR,

IMPATIENT for your answer, I am fearful my letter has not reached you. I wrote requesting you would let me know how to direct a small parcel, that I might be sure you would get it safe. I would be much obliged to you, to inform me, how matters are going on with regard to the renewal of Capel-street concern. Whether it is likely to take place at Michaelmas? You will excuse this trouble; our not hearing from Ireland keeps us in total ignorance of what is going forward there, &c.

August 20th, 1775.

M—— W——.

DEAR SIR,

I FLATTERED myself that you would not have punished me so severely, for my want of thought. I wrote, requesting you would let me know about Capel-street concern, and hoped I should have been favoured with an answer. I confess, I cannot help thinking it very extraordinary, that let me apply to whom I will, I cannot gain the least intelligence with regard to it. I wrote to Mr. ——, above six months ago, requesting him to enquire about it, and have never received a line from him since. It is a matter of too much importance to us, and I am too deeply interested in the renewal's taking place, to support any longer so uneasy a state of suspense; therefore, if I may not hope for a satisfactory answer from you, must have recourse to some other expedient.

The appellation of Trifle you are pleased to bestow upon my parcel, without knowing what it is, shall not prevent my using all the circumspection I think necessary. I will not therefore send it, until certain of your being in London, to receive it.

Bath, August 28th, 1775.

DEAR

* I wrote to him for my own goal. March 9th, 1772.

DEAR M——,

YOUR two letters, 20th and 28th August, are before me.----I am amazed at your expecting to be informed from me, as to the renewal of Capel-street; I have not the least acquaintance with Mr. —, and do not know thro' what other channel it should come to my knowledge;* without being gifted with second-sight.

As to your mother's and sister's monies, you have always taken the lead, in every business that concerned them; and I expect you should do it now, and give me the necessary information; I shall consider my writing to you, the same, as if I wrote each of you separate letters, &c.

London, 6th September, 1775.

DEAR SIR,

I RECEIVED yours of the 6th, and beg leave to assure you that my mother shall not know one syllable about the money from me, and that I am not to be threatened into any thing. I am, dear Sir, your dutiful Niece,

September 9th, 1775.

M—— W——.

DEAR SIR,

WHEN I wrote mine of August 16th, I had determined in consequence of your advice, "to consider well," to make you a judge of the cause in question, by giving you an opportunity of perusing my aunt's letters and mine; that if it had been agreeable to you to have engaged in a mediation between us, you might have done it. Since then circumstances have varied, and I think it best to refer you to the publication. As my aunt has not an opportunity of correcting her letters, mine shall appear with all their inaccuracies. I am, &c.

Sept. 23d, 1775.

DEAR M——,

— **W**HERE friends in little differences are inclined to act a reasonable part, their own hearts are the best mediators; when on the other hand, they are determined to counter-act every thing that is right, they fly to publications, &c. which flatters their own vanity, without doing further good; ---- you have vexed and teased her (my aunt) and yourself, by a certain petulance of temper, which I must suppose was without intention; she did your business without any emolument to herself; you ought to have been more moderate in your commands.----

Sister

* See Mr. K——'s letters, inserted hereafter.

Sister K's ----- she has Bath in view, if she pursues that purpose I shall meet her there, till then defer the publication of the letters.

London, 4th October, 1775.

DEAR SIR,

I RECEIVED yours of the 4th, am sorry to find my aunt is not well. How far I have sought to counter-act every thing that is right, or behaved indecently to my aunt,* will appear in the publication; which I can by no means think of suspending, as my own health has been declining some years, my life very precarious, and I can neither live nor die in peace, until my character is cleared, and our affairs settled, &c.

October 7th, 1775.

* At the time this was wrote, I do not recollect I had ever spoke a disrespectful word to my aunt in my life: But since she has been urging my mother to ratify all she has done, without having given in any accounts, I confess I have behaved to her less ceremoniously.





L E T T E R I.

MY DEAR GIRLS,

I PRESUME you have had long wishes for your money, but no private hand offered till Mr. -----, and as he goes before Brother W--d is so good as to take it: there is that was due last March 12l. 0. 0d. We intend to prevail with my Sister to allow you 5 pounds a year each above what you have; and if she can't be got into it, from our thinking it reasonable, will pay it from the interest of the 400l. which we have promised between you, at your mother's decease.* I sent you last December 3l. 10s. 2d. in the

* Dear Miss M.

Dublin, 27th Aug. 1763.

I HOPE you received my letter from Bristol, with an excuse for not calling on you the day I left Bath. I arrived here in very good health the 7th instant.

Your Uncle, Aunt, and I have agreed to make a small addition to your's and your sister's fortune, by making over four hundred pounds of the money due by Mr. ———, between you and her; but before this can be done in form, we think it necessary to know how your mother will dispose of what she has in her own power. I leave your aunt's letter to her, as well as mine, with a bill for 50l. open for your perusal. When you have taken copies of them, seal and deliver them. If my sister returns at Christmas, as she talks, we think it not worth while to send your sister S. over; but if she stays, as I expect she will, she may go in Spring.

Your uncle K. leaves this in a day or two. Make my compliments to all our Bath friends, and believe me, dear cousin,

your most affectionate

M. W--d.

Mr. ———'s debt is very safe, tho' he is dead, and will, I think, be soon paid in.

DEAR SISTER,

Dublin, 27th Aug. 1763.

INCLOSED I send you my bill on Mr. ———, of London, 50l. Exchange 7½ per ct. 53l. 12s. 6d. to your deb. I would have sent it to you sooner, but waited until I could communicate to you our resolutions of presenting my cousins, M— and S—, with four hundred pounds to increase their fortunes; for the further particulars whereof I refer you to sister K—'s letter inclosed.

You may make yourself very easy about Mr. ———'s debt, which I believe is very safe, and expect it will be very soon paid in.

I hope Miss M— made you my excuse for not calling on you the day I left Bath.

I am, dear sister,

I have received from sister K—
47l. 1s. 3d. Irish, on your account.

your most affectionate brother,

M. W--d.

DEAR

the English bill, and now the remainder of the 5 pounds, and is till the 14th of last December, 1l. 9s. 10d. I send you the prize money which I have mentioned, 2l. 5s. 6d. 15l. 15s. 4d. I make it even 14 Guineas, and beg you will write me when you have got it, and send me a receipt for the 12l. 0s. 0d. to your Cousin E. W--d, and another for 5 pounds, received addition to your Sallary, and let it be to the 14th of December last, the next gale of it will be due the 14th of June. 14 Guineas you will find is 15l. 18s. 6d. and bid you adieu. M. K.

D. W--d has just seen Mrs. W---; she is indifferent; perhaps S. may find an opportunity to return when Brother W--d comes; but is advised not to be in a hurry till good company offers, in case my Sister still declines coming.

LETTER II.

Dublin, April 28, 1768.

IT is so long since I have had a word from my dear Nieces; that I begin to think they are determined to write no more, and that our correspondence should cease, if I did not call upon you; for I verily think you both have been in my debt since January, when I wrote through a friend going to London, and I believe cou'd not fail reaching of you.

This family, (thank God) are all tolerable well; yet I hope you will have Brother W--d at Bath in less than a fortnight; he thinks his going so unnecessary, that it is actually through complying with my

DEAR SISTER,

Dublin, Aug. the 27th, 1763.

I HAVE paid to brother W--d, which he will remit to you, forty-seven pounds one shilling and three pence, Irish money; it is all that I have of your's at present.

I did hope it would have been agreeable to you to have returned to your friends and country, and that I might have shewn you my accounts of the money which I received and paid for you, and that we might have come to a final settlement, and to have given up to you the letter of attorney, to have been your own receiver; however, till your return, I shall do it to the best of my power.

We wished heartily to have seen you and Miss M—, from hoping that you would have had more happiness and comfort, with especially S—, who is affectionate and dutiful to all her relations, and would join her endeavours with her sisters, to have contributed all in her power to your comfort and satisfaction. But as you have determined to stay some time longer, and as we would wish you every comfort of life, as well as necessary of it, must make it our general request that so far from retrenching of expence (as you hint in a letter to brother W--d) that you should live more commodiously: In order to encourage you to this, we, I mean my brother, brother W--d and myself, are ready to secure to M. W—, and S. W—, four hundred pounds of the thousand pounds, the interest of which is paid to you; and when you are secure of their fortune's

my Sister, and all our recommending it to him, more than any persuasion of necessity for it; and indeed I hope here he is right, as I also think it exceeding eligible, (being three years since he was there) that he should take the trip. He will take your money, and I shall remit your prize money. When I purchased for you it might have turned up 4000l. that was the highest prize; but a poor Guinea being all, we must be satisfied. I had one Guinea prize in my three Tickets; I will send you that also, to be one each, I presume my dear S----, &c.

I was

fortune's being so much increased, we think that it cannot appear unreasonable to you that the interest of this sum should be paid to them during of your life, or at least, to Miss M—, whose situation makes it necessary to dress more, and to be at some more expence. Why then your daughters provision being better, you will not think it necessary to save as you have constantly done since at Bath; and part of those savings will be paid to the girls, to increase their allowance, as well as so much principal secured to them at your death.

And do not be uneasy about the security of the money that brother W—d spoke about; he did not apprehend the principal to be in the least danger, nor has not reason to do so, but only meant to tell you that there might be some delay in the payment of the interest, as the gentleman in whose hands it was, is dead; but his affairs are very good. I don't mean to dictate to you, but beg leave to recommend your having a second room; it will allow more comfort to you both. Your request for a bond and judgment from my brother, really surprises me. He desires to be remembered to you, and with affection; but that I mean a bond and judgment, he has never given to any body, and surely cannot be expected to do it here, when your interest and safety was his only motive for keeping of your money. He wishes nothing more than to pay it in, and desires me to tell you that you may have it at an hour's warning; but let me beg you to be careful to have the principal and the payment of the interest as well secured; and remember that he allows you six per cent for it.

Before we make any legal conveyance of this 400l. to your daughters, we must be informed how you intend to dispose of what you have in your power. We hope, and believe that you mean to leave it equally between them, (as they are both extremely deserving), then, so shall we; if you should not, but intend more for one than for the other, we shall endeavour to make up the deficiency to which ever you intend to leave the least to, in order that they may be equal in their fortunes: For this purpose we desire your answer on this head as soon as possible, that we may settle this affair, which we hope will be as much to your satisfaction, as it is to your daughters advantage. Many join in love and compliments to you and Miss M—. With

Dear sister, your sincerely
affectionate, &c. M. K.

My aunt K— since told me in her bed-chamber at Miss L—r's, South-Parade, (a back room up two pair of stairs) that notwithstanding my mother would not comply with the conditions, that it was done.

The following extract of a letter I wrote to my sister about that time, corroborates what I have said:

"It will not be a disagreeable piece of intelligence, I presume, to my S—, that the settlement my U—s and A. proposed to my M. to make on us is perfected, notwithstanding she would not comply with the conditions.

M— W—to S— W—.

January 28, 1765.

I was happy in finding by your Aunt's letter a fortnight near ago, that you were all pretty well. My love and that of the family to my Sister: Accept of it yourselves, from

your truly affectionate, &c. M. K.

Your cousin M--- intends writing by Mr. -----.

I hope Mr. ----- has arrived safe and your fourteen Guineas, which he was so kind to take, directed to Mrs. -----, with a letter, as he went before Brother W--d; this was to have been sent by the first date; he will, I hope, get away soon, and will tell you why it did not, and take Mrs. -----'s bumbazeen petticoat with him; tell her so. Your Aunt W----- but poorly. God bless you. Adieu. Your's. M. K.

May the 10th, 1768.

LETTER III.

MY DEAR GIRLS,

May the 12th.

I SEE by a letter to Mrs. S. W. that you expected hearing from Jervais-street, and indeed it was not by intention we were silent, tho' you were so much so; you could have wrote without any expence; and if I could have done that to you, would not have minded the other, as I am sure you could not intend neglect. The weak state poor cousin W. has so long struggled with has given her

and let us avoid repining

advantageous a charge makes

"daughters of my Brother J--- W---- deceased, all my right, title and interest in and to the concerns I have in Marlborough-street, known by the name of the Factory, and set to the late Mr. -----, to be equally divided between them." "I also give and bequeath to my two Nieces M. and S. W. each the sum of one hundred pounds sterl." "I leave and bequeath to J. W. and my three Nieces D. D. M. W. and S. W. my household furniture, linen, plate, and china, to be equally divided between them; and to her long care-taker and companion S. W. she leaves her watch, trinkets, ear-rings, the set of wrought chairs, and wrought quilt." Jo. W. is executor, and is residuary legatee

paying Mrs. D. 50l.

50l. a piece

for app

pounds, and to little

that

that there being valued, he chusing one valuator and you another. Consider of it, and your uncle W--d. will assist you with his friendly advice in the matter. I send this by Brother W--d with my best wishes. God bless you. My love attends my Sister. How had I best do in regard to advancing your Sallary, as I have not yet sp - - - to your Mother about.? Shall I - - -

L E T T E R IV.

June the 14th, 1768.

I Just now received my dear girls packet of the 7th. Jo. W. never misbehaved in any respect, except refusing to allow an auction at York-street; so that I do not understand what you mean; by a paragraph your's you say "As to what you heard of the furniture, if true, we think it highly unreasonable, and will not submit to it;" explain this in your next. The furniture is divided; what it will produce at an auction I cannot say; but there is not one immediately: in the mean time Jo. W--- lends his garret: as to the china, Mr. W— thought it best to divide it, it being a cheap article now in Dublin; the old bowl in which all the family were christened, he begs may be in his lot, as the elder branch of the family: that I cannot think unreasonable. The china was all produced last Monday. S— knows there is but one perfect set; *that* Mr. W. said his cousins should have, and he and Mrs. D. should have the remainder between them. S— can best remember what there are besides; but I could not agree to that; I offered him to exchange and let him have his favourite bowl with the set. He would have done it, but Mrs. W--- demurred. So let me know what are your sentiments on that head. The bond for 50 pounds I shall speak of, but never heard of it before. Your mother's desk is, I think, sealed. I am in a great hurry just removing to the country, where B— is to drink goat whey; but shall go to York-street this evening. My eyes being very weak this evening, I am obliged to employ my secretary. So adieu, and believe me &c. &c.

P. S. The cabinet S— mentions is in her lot, and valued at two guineas and half: let her send me word if she chuses to keep it at that price, or send it to auction. Pray give my love to my sister, and tell her that our good intentions for poor old Mrs. Oliver, are needless; she is dead, and I hope better provided for.

LETTER

L E T T E R V.

M— B— and M— joins love with mine.

MY DEAR GIRLS, *Bray, June the 30th, 1768.*

I HAVE yours of the 20th inst. and am much pleased to be able to tell S— that I found Mrs. C—'s note in the place she mentioned ; so no seal is broke, or requires it. It appears on the back of the note 3l. 6s. 10¹/₂d. has been paid to her. She is but indifferent in her health, poor thing. I wish my dear S— you had left that bond you say your aunt owed you, with me. Sister W--d looked a great deal of papers without being able to find it; send a more exact account where it is, and where the desk lies you say it is in; is it not the money Nuttall left you? I thought that was 20l. you call the bond 25l. Be as explicit as possible, for J. W. cannot bring himself to think that there is any such demand; he says his aunt W. told him of several debts, "and that those were all she owed;" and this was not among them, or hinted at by her. I was just setting out for the country when I received your's, so got sister W---d to look for the bond. I wish you had mentioned it at first. I stayed in town some days on account of your business, unwilling to give my sister the trouble; however I am sure she will not think it so, to serve you both. And now dear M—, in regard to your part of the letter (which gave place as S. seemed so anxious about that note) I readily fall into your own observation, that fifty pounds a year is a great deal of money to pay for meer lodging. You talk of tight management, enabling you to compass the payment, (I suppose of the additional 20l. a year) and now my dear, I think that plan neither feasible nor pleasant; nor do I think you cut out for it. If the accommodations you have did not afford comfort, I should advise the running some risque of (I had almost said) being involved (tho' it is not the eligible thing); getting into debt is not a shining part of a character; I mean getting into such a train of expence as will make it scarcely possible to keep out of it; and consider also it will be some time before you get any benefit from your aunt's legacy. You have not authorized me to get the lease of the Factory. J. W. said the rent of it was paid in your aunt's illness, by law I am sure he has a year to pay you the 100l. each, if he chuses it. The plate and furniture (which, if I was you, I would make money of) will not amount to more than another 100l. The lease how circumstanced I don't know. S— perhaps knows; but Mrs. C— said it brought 12l. 10s. a year. By your own account your income was very tight before; here will be a pretty addition, and enable you to live more comfortably and genteelly; but indeed dispose of 21l. 16s. 8d. which is 20l. English, and at the same time, a greater open for other expence. All I can say, I would not, myself go in to it. You allowed the additional room made all things convenient, and a clean

clean and tight room, tho' it has a bed in it, is no indecent thing. Does my sister still sleep in the street one? Perhaps she might be persuaded to take the middle floor instead of the upper, and sleep in the back one herself; a turn-up bed in your room might mend the œconomy much; I mean the appearance: I would give something for that; but not the *substance* for the *shadow*. A purchase of some Scotch carpeting might enable your apartment to make a better figure. Your aunt—'s fortune, once so ample, was dwindled to the almost nothing it now is, (in a great measure) by living in a more expensive way than prudence enjoined, besides the pinchings both she and Mrs.— frequently felt from want of knowing where to get the present guinea.* Ask your sister, am I not right; and of all sacrifices to vanity,† methinks I would not be trappanned into this, it draws with it such a train of disagreeables. When I write, I can if you please, as from myself, ask your uncle's opinion: Did you ask brother W--d's. I would not be in a hurry to do it; but consider the matter very well, for it will be still worse to give it up, when once you had it; and considering your mother's situation of health, I cannot think but truly valuable acquaintance will impute a great deal to her oddity, and love you both as well in the room you have, as if it was smarter: indeed it will not answer for numerous parties; nor I fancy is your heart set on them. I know S— seemed to think she wanted but you to make a very lonely life a very satisfied one. I hope my long letter will not tire you, as I cannot in my judgment agree with a scheme which would undoubtedly be pleasanter, could it be compassed with ease, in every article. I need not tell you (I hope) that I should have encrease of happiness, by your having encrease of it. I shall speak to N— for two tickets, and with Mr.—'s luck may attend; he has had his turn. You will not be more surprized than I was, to hear poor S— T— has paid her debt

* In justice to the memory of these distinguishedly worthy women, I must say, that this is a gross misrepresentation. The former came in by right, at the death of her husband, to what in those days was reckoned a very good fortune. Kindnesses to her friends, and tedious law-suits, in which, she was unavoidably engaged through the injustice of others, reduced it to less than a sixth part. The latter was kept out of her fortune by her nephew, against whom she commenced a suit. For some years she was amused by her attorney, with the expectation that every term would bring it to a conclusion: at last, growing impatient, she got a friend to enquire about it; who informed her, there was no such cause in the courts. Alarmed at this intelligence, she thought it best to compromise with her nephew, and take up with a yearly income, until the whole was paid. My aunts never had done more, than live in a neat retired manner; and as their income became straiter, they in proportion contracted their œconomy. I do not believe the circumstance of the guinea is true; but, if it ever happened, I am persuaded it must have been owing to Mr. W— (her nephew) his not fulfilling his engagements.

† I must beg leave to differ from my aunt here. If living decently, like other people, be a vanity, I should suppose it the most rational of all vanities.

debt to nature ; a fever hurried her in a few days, but not till she proved her goodness of heart by being scarcely moved at her mother's loss of 2100*l.* with the T-'s ; they all three behaved inimitably. Believe me sincerely your friend, &c. M. K.

LETTER VI.

MY DEAR GIRLS,

Bray, July the 5th, 1768.

YOU perhaps may have this before the answer to your's of the 20th of June arrives ; it was detained by mistake. I intended to have conveyed my opinion on the point which you consulted me about as soon as possible, as you desired. For need I tell you how agreeable it is to me to concur in sentiments with you, whenever I can. Sister W--d agrees with me in thinking it would be a most inconvenient hampering of yourselves, to engage in so heavy rent as you mention. You don't tell me if you gave my sister the part of the letter for her which hinted at her furniture ; and to know if she would not chuse to part with them. I make no doubt but they are lessened one-half in their value already, and still growing worse. My brother W---d tells us my sister appears to him to be better than she has been ; much better than when he was last at Bath. Miss — takes this. Had I supposed she had gone so soon, I would not have wrote by post. I am sure you have both too much discretion and good sense, not to think that any money which can be properly saved, ought to be saved ; the necessary calls are found to be large enough, be the fortune small or great. People generally living according to what it will allow, and happy it is when ends are made to meet ; dreadful it is when there is a failure in this. I am sure you will be inclined to shew Miss — any civility in your power ; she is a very good sort of girl ; and so is Mrs. — a good kind of woman, with whom she goes ; her husband is in a poor decrepid state. I hoped you would have directed me about selling your plate : I sent you the list to know if there was any of it you would keep, tea spoons and tongs if you have not any ; but let me know farther : the china is not divided ; I told you how it stood ; Mr. W— offering for your two shares the best set, and to take all the remainder between him and his sister ; but the remainder appeared to me so much better, I told him I would change, and that he should have his favourite bowl into the bargain : In the decision of these matters S—'s being to the fore and on the spot, would have been an advantage to you, but this cannot be helped : I did the best I could. Our weather has been very wet since Saturday se'nnight (rain was then wanted) ; but it is a commodity one soon tires of, especially in the little lodging I am in ; I have got no house in town ; they are so exceeding high, I fear I sha'nt ; I offered for Mr. E—'s house 35*l.* a year and 100*l.* fine ; he insisted on 40*l.* and
the

the cool. fine. I should have told you that Mrs. W. did not like, the set of china, &c. between Mrs. D-- and them, nor would it do unless they made money of them. B---- is taking goat whey, her cough not being quite gone, and greets you lovingly; you will have sincere pleasure I am sure in hearing that—— is restored to his limbs, fortunately whatever the cause was, it is happily removed and very quickly so; his father thought of getting a sling to try his legs, and give them some movement; however his appetite was come to be better, and all has co-operated so, that he walks out with his mother and sister, who are very well and never forget to inquire for you both. Adieu my dear girls, and be assured of the hearty good wishes of your sincerely affectionate M. K.
Pray my love to my sister.

L E T T E R VII.

DEAR M----,

I Have a letter from your cousin N—, who says my brother W--d has a bill on him on your account for twelve guineas, had no previous advice of it, and don't know on what account you draw; explain it to me if you please, and I will let him know, or else if you like it better, write yourself, and send it here by five o'clock, and Mr. C--- will take it, who goes to-morrow. Love to all.

Saturday Feb. the 4th 1769.

L E T T E R VIII.

Dublin, May the 5th, 1769.

MY DEAR GIRLS will, I am afraid, reproach me somewhat when I tell them, that it is a week this day since our re-joining happily and well, our Dublin friends; nothing could be more fortunate or agreeable than every circumstance of our journey and voyage. We had indeed great reluctance in going without Captain and Mrs. ----- I hear with pleasure from her mother a good account of them, which I hope you will confirm to us, and let us hear soon I beg of you. We got to Chester at breakfast Wednesday, and found ship news to be that one at least would fail that tide, which served about three o'clock; away we went to P--kgate, and sailed three hours after, (thank God) and every thing as much to our wish as the journey had been, in every respect, but sleeping Thursday night at Dunleary, instead of dining in Dublin, which we had a prospect of doing. We found our friends as we could wish; and pray let constant hurry ever since plead our excuse for not writing sooner. I had set time a part for it more than once, but was still interrupted. I received a guinea and half for M. W's. lottery ticket, the other a blank; my ticket was also

B

guinea

guinea and half, so will be in partnership, which defrays the expence of the three, and I owe you the two guineas. My love attends my sister. I have not had leisure to look into business, but hope to set about it soon, and to adjust the auction accounts. The next time we write will be by frank, directed to Miss W---d at Mr. B---'s; so you had better leave a memorandum at the Post-office, to have such a one given to your care, or kept for you till called for. I have not seen Mr. or Mrs. W--- yet; he did send to Jervais-street, on your letter coming, so consequently acknowledges it. I have ten tea spoons of your's, marked E. B. Shall I send them to you? I shall enquire for a Bristol ship, and send back your trunk, which was very useful to us, and has our thanks. M--- sends her love to you both. Pray remember us to good Mrs. ----: tell her the ---- look well, and are so. I never saw Mrs. ---- look better, and sweet ---- is vastly well; they would be quite happy could they have her; but in this world there must be something still an alloy; they made very friendly inquiries after your ladyships, with many others. Our compliments to Mr. ----, and all inquirers. Your cousin N---- desires his compliments, and would answer S---'s, letter, if I had not transacted your money matters, so will not be in a hurry. You may direct for us to Mr. ---- as usual, privilege being to come in this month. This family all joins in love to sister and yourselves. Believe me to be with great sincerity your affectionate &c. M. K.

L E T T E R IX.

Dublin, May the 13th, 1769.

MY Dear Girls have, I hope, been let into the contents, tho' a little in obscurity by the direction. (Thank God) all friends well, and desire to be remembered to you and my sister: Does she continue her visits to the Pump-Room. I hope M----'s stomach is pretty well, and if the waters are like to serve, that they are not neglected. Pray my dear did you not tell me that the 13l. odd that you drew on brother W---d about Christmas, was to be answered by the 7-6-6, and the remainder from the half year due the first of August, at Marlborough-green. It is yearly 13l. 3s 4d. and is in the hands of Mr. ----; he paid me the year yesterday, due first of last February. The T--- money not yet paid; so don't wonder that there was some surprize, for N--- W---d from being at Bath and perils in the way home, remembered not a title of the matter. You had better, I think, hereafter draw on M--- W---d, Esq; and son; for it is N--- transacts for you. The 18l. 10s. you give me credit for, is answered by the 12l. for which you give my brother K. a receipt by N. and the other half year of the factory is it not so, I having allowed you those sums when we parted.

parted. Pray excuse bad memory, tho' you may be so happy as to have a good one yourself. Pray present my best wishes to Mrs. ---- (and M----'s) with the inclosed: tell her that my dear Mrs. ---- thinks this letter she now gets, was forwarded last Saturday: but when I came to look for the frank, brother W---d had it locked up, and he in the country, so could not get it till this day. You must still watch for letters. We have two franks directed to brother W---d at Bath, (Col. ---'s) which we mean should travel to you, as well as another to Miss W---d, so be on the watch. How quickly poor Mrs --- made her exit: We supposed her as well as any one could be, when we left Bath: It seems she was a little ill the day before, tho' we did not hear it: She has left J. ---- one hundred guineas. She has bequeathed about 500l. and left a Mrs. ----, who was a Miss ----, a niece of her's, residuary legatee. I wish Miss ----'s had been more, for I think her very deserving. She arrived Sunday last. We have not seen Miss ----, so can tell you nothing of her. I wrote to Mr. W. last Saturday, telling him that you had impowered me to receive your money, and had given me proper receipts for the two hundred pounds left you by your aunt's will; and also told me that you expected it should be now paid, begged he would fix a (short) day for paying it, and I should take care to be in the way. He sent me no answer. I sent again this day, and he was not at home. I shall let him hear from me again soon, and hope to have a better account of the matter to acquaint you with. I expect a letter from you daily, and long much to hear you are all well. Are you all pleased with your Master of Ceremonies? Adieu my dear girls. Believe me to be sincerely your affectionate, &c.

M. K.

I saw Mrs. ---- yesterday. She sends love to you both; they are all well. Miss ----'s letter has also lain some days by me.

L E T T E R X.

DEAR S——,

Holly-Wood, June the 10th, 1769.

YOU were so good to let me know you were well by Mrs. ——— You referred me to her for any news; when the pen was in your hand you should have given it to me, for her I have not seen. My stomach has been very ill, and a great deal confined me, which prevented our going to see Mrs. ----. I now write from brother W---d's country house, to which M. and I came as soon as I got better, which (thank God) I am at present.

I could have wished you had immediately answered that letter (if you have got it) directed to Miss W---d, then I could send this cover

with more confidence. I have seen J. W.* He told me he received a letter from Miss M. which a great deal surprized him, not that she desired to have your money paid, but the terms she made use of, particularly in regard to the bond. He says he is about to sell Harold's Cross, and then will pay the 200l. in the mean time will pay the interest of it. He says he can do no more at present, and ended with his own kind of laugh, "that if you are determined to go to law, he thinks he shall have it as cheap as you." I wish the sale may take place. It appears to me the only method to get out of his hands. What with being taken up when we first came by friends coming to see us, and the indisposition of my stomach, I have not entirely adjusted your auction accounts; tho' not like to turn out much, they were attended with a good deal of intricacy and trouble. I hope they will be soon finished; and shall make inquiry for a Bristol ship; if the trunk be large enough to disguise the coffee pot, will send it with the books. You did not tell me if you would have the ten tea spoons and tongs. If you don't want the latter, sister W---d will take them of you. I have spoke for your lottery tickets. N. W---d has none himself. He thinks you must pay a premium. He hears they are sold at 1l. 5s. You see how much gaming is in fashion. I have not yet been able to get the money from the T---s. The person who is to pay it insists on seeing aunt S---'s will, and it is, it seems, astray; so loath people are to let money out of their hands, though they know they have no right to it. I don't know how your weather may be, but our's is right cold, bleak, and dreeping, which prevents the country appearing to much advantage. My brother K. was very ill about the time I left Bath, and was confined to his bed a fortnight; but is (thank God) now purely recovered. Mrs. — is here on a visit to her father: She looks mighty well, and her daughter. She means to return in a few weeks. Pray remember us affectionately to Mrs. —, accept our love, and that of this family, and be assured of the sincere affection of your's, &c.

M. K.

All our loves attends my sister.

I should have told my dear M. that J. W— says in regard to the bond, he is quite satisfied to be directed by Counsellor W—'s opinion, whether he is to pay it or not, and is satisfied that it should appear as if to the fore, whether sound or not. I had the pleasure of M—'s letter thro' Mrs. —, an hour ago, which I am much obliged for. You ask in whose hands my sister's 200l. (which I put out) is? —, Esq; pays the interest, and a Captain — is joined with him in security for it; it is personal security. I hope

* Joseph W—r, Esq; Counsellor at Law, York-street, Dublin.

I hope this will greet you in right time. I have the fellow frank, which please to watch for. M— — is much calmer, and endeavours as much as possible by religion and every rational means, to struggle with and get the better of a very sensible distress, and I trust will conquer, to the unspeakable pleasure of her family. I don't rejoice in the New Rooms: I think it will make a division in Bath. Compliments to all inquiring friends. I promised Mr. P— to pay you 9d. Miss — owed him. I forgot to leave you the money, but beg you to pay him.

LETTER XI.

Hollywood, July the 15th, 1769.

MY dear girls, no doubt but you have been expecting as well as wishing to hear somewhat of your money matters: the affairs were complicated and troublesome, then the difficulty of settling, and small matters even more so than larger. Many walks I had to York-street, and never settled finally with Mr. W— till Thursday last; to the best of my knowledge and closest inspection, the accounts* are right: (and I assure you they have engaged many of my hours); and sorry I am that the produce is no more than about 45l. the cabinet which S— desired to keep included, the valuation of which is 2l. 16s. 0½d. the produce of the plate is 51l. 9s. 6d. this last in brother W—d's hands, that of the goods in mine. My sister's goods sold very badly, the produce of them is but eight pounds. In S—'s catalogue of her things, she mentions cushions. I heard of no such thing. I hope they are locked up somewhere. Many articles were lost of her's, and your's, that I can trace no account of, nor can it be wondered at. Mrs W— was ill when they were taken to the auction. (She, it seems, miscarried in the 7th month). J. W—d attended; however he was unacquainted with what ought to be there, and it is well it was no worse, tho' that appears poor comfort. Sister W—d attended the sale. Every attention was intended and done; and perhaps had you been here, things might not have turned out better. S. mentions 3 French plate candlesticks, which there is no account of. Thursday I spoke to J.W. again, about paying your money: he says he means to do so in three weeks, or perhaps less time, and that he means to pay you interest upon the money from your aunt W—'s death. I did not think the law bound him to it; if so, you are much obliged to him. Brother W—d thinks that tho' an executor may keep the legacy in his own hands a year, yet he must pay interest for it; be this as it may, I must say he say he speaks very fair, nor can

* We never saw those accounts.

can I object to any of his conduct, but not having an auction at the house. Vanity, I think, was the cause of this. He thought it a reflection, that the goods were not left to himself only. His sister is no more obliged to him than you, on this account; and certain I am, you could not have influenced an auction, had you been here. Indeed had S— happened to have been on the spot, it would have been in your way, as you know there can be none like one's own eye; and then again poor S— would have had a very affecting, as well as a very fatiguing time and scene, to have gone through; so we will hope all is for the best. Your money you will have put out, I think you said; and you need not doubt my being attentive to it, please God I live and be well. My stomach pure well now. Good air and exercise has set me up. I have put up those books you spoke of, the coffee-pot at the bottom, an old black fatten gown, in a sleeve of it is S—'s little black seal. There is ten tea spoons marked E. B. and parcels sealed. (O that you might find that same bond among them, how I should rejoice. I cannot think any one so devoid of principle as to make it away.) These in your trunk, which I brought, and waits a ship going to Bristol. I mentioned J. W—'s saying he would leave the affair of the bond to Counsellor W—, and would abide by his opinion, considering it as to the fore, it was in a letter inclosed in a frank, directed to brother W---d, which I told you beforehand I would do; but not having the scrape of a pen from either of you since, for what I know the letter lies in the post-office, so shall not venture this in a frank (directed to Miss W---d at Bath) which goes this post, with a letter of J——'s, and one from M. W---d; so pray inquire for it, as also for one directed to my brother W. If you have not yet got it, we have another directed for him, which, if others succeeded, you shall have. Compliments and love to Mrs. —: her interest, I believe, is sufficient to procure English franks, perhaps some for you as well as herself, and you might inclose them, which would save you some expence. Let S— tell me how many great chairs there was at York-street; one, I fancy, belonged to her work'd set; were there two beside I ask, because two are set down, and happens one in each of your lots of goods, and but two can be heard of? so the work'd set wants the arm chair, if it had one. Your last to me is May the 31st. You ask me in whose hands the money which my sister has saved, is? I told you in that same letter, (hinted at above) it was in Mr. —'s and Captain —'s, personal security; but this 200l. I assure you, my sister knows, I told her who it was lent to. She will be in cash to put out more when Mr. — is got to pay arrears, which he owes, and Mr. P— was employed to get it. I have some cash of her's too, above 50l. which I collected since I came home; when she has it, and I put it out, I shall not fail to let her know.

My

My love to her, and all this family's. And be assured I am your sincere friend and affectionate, &c. M. K.

Compliments to Mr. — and Miss —, if there. I don't rejoice in the New Rooms. I much wish J. W. is not speaking large when he talks of paying you so soon. I would compound for half a year. He is about to sell somewhat. I fear sometimes he forgets how much he owes. He resents M—'s letter every time he sees me.

LETTER XII.

DEAR MADAM,

* — — — — — and I can swear that there was such a bond; that the money lent was 20l. a piece left to my sister and me by Mr. Wm. Nuttall, who died at Cork; that it was you proposed to my mother and me (my sister then being several years under age) the lending of that money to my A—W—; that my mother objected to it, and would not consent, unless my A—B— was bound for the payment of it; that I was totally averse to it, knowing it was to be employed in carrying on a law-suit against my uncle W—; and as I wished to preserve a neutrality between them, did not chuse to do any thing that might be construed into the favouring one side. My arguments were overborne. My uncle W—d did not see any strength or weight (I will not swear which) in them. My mother made up our 40l. 50l. the sum my aunt wanted, and that the bond was for. I can swear too that my aunt W— offered me her own gold watch (a chased one) in payment of my part; which last circumstance, if Mrs. — is living, I doubt not but she remembers my telling her of it, as I perfectly remember I did.

LETTER XIII.

* This Letter, without beginning or end, I would have suppressed, could I have justified myself in doing so.

The reader will perceive, that there are no letters of mine before this scrap, nor for a long time after. I did not keep copies of my letters until my aunt, by repeatedly finding fault with the style, made me think it a necessary precaution. Compliments, News, &c. were omitted as immaterial.

LETTER XIII.

L—D — married to Mrs. —, divorced from her husband for the purpose. He is since dead. Compliments to Mrs. —, &c. and Mr. —.

August the 30th, 1769, Hollywood.

I have at last the pleasure of hearing from you (dated the 2d inst.) and rejoice that you are well. This was to have travelled in a frank directed to Miss W—d, but on locking, think I must have left it in town; so ask still at the post-office, some two or three weeks hence, for if I find it I shall send it. I did not fear the frank going free, all the difficulty was your not getting it, being directed to Miss W—d. I hope this goes by Miss —'s, acquaintances of good Mrs. —'s. I set down to write as soon as I heard they were going, and hope to be in time. I went to J. W. the other day, and told him I hoped he was now ready to pay you the time he mentioned, for it being elapsed some two or three weeks, but that he might

be inconvenient to raise the money to pay the interest. He was, he said, then going to the country to ask D.T— what was doing in it. Poor D. having got sore eyes, & was confined then by them; this was last Thursday, and I have not heard since. My dear M—, forgive me, for I cannot help smiling at your heroics; veracity is beautiful and very dear; but I never imagine mine hurt, by a supposition that I may have mistaken*. I believe nothing else was meant. I am very sure that bond was perfected, and in the parlour at York-street, and yet you must not wonder that a thing transacted so long ago, and of which I heard not a word for so long a time,† I could not easily swear to; undoubtedly my sister's part at any rate cannot be alienated, or rather no plea made use of to deprive her. Pray my love to Mrs. —. I saw all the Cusse-street family, who were very well and in seeming good spirits,

very

* An odd mistake! to fancy there was a bond for a sum of money, when there was no such thing.

† It appears from a letter of my aunt's, dated *June* the 6th, 1758, that I had commissioned her to apply to my aunt W—, for my part of that money. And, in another, dated *April* the 9th, 1760, she says, she found I had taken up part of it.

very happy ere' last night by letters from poor M— arrived in England from Jamaica, where he has been six or seven months, and we hope he will be able to spend a month or six weeks here before he goes again to the East-Indies, which is his intention. Your trunk sailed a fortnight ago. I hope you have got it safe before this; it was directed to Mr. —, merchant, in Bristol, and he was desired to forward it to you at your lodging: so if it does not arrive in due time, write him a very civil letter to inquire, and to request he will forward it whenever it comes: the key was also sent, inclosed. An unhappy duel has taken place at last, between Mr. — and Mr. —, both of . Mr. — killed. They went two or three years ago to , to evade the law, and decide the difference: so you see it is an old animosity. The matter took wind, and they were followed and bound over. It is a dismal affair; and I pity and Mrs. —'s mother exceedingly, not that I

to Mrs. —, if you see her. I fear S— will have a bad account of her arm chairs; there are but two in the house, and one was charged 12s. by the valuator, Dr. S—. Was there any such thing as silver or gold loops in any of my sister's drawers or places? I have not

LETTER XIV.

Dublin, October 19, 1769.

* **P**Rivate hands are indeed uncertain, as my letters with Miss —'s for six weeks past, can, and I hope soon will, certify to you. Cousin — tells us my sister appeared to him much better: that she was quite composed without any agitation. I did not know Bath was in his intention, or would have wrote by him. I hope you have got your trunk; I have been wishing to be satisfied that you have, by hearing from you; if not, write immediately to Mr. —, merchant, in Bristol, to whom it was directed. and beg he will forward it to you. The mahogany waiter would not go into it, or you should have had it. I beg one of you my dear girls, will write, and direct to me in Jervais-street, to prevent delay, which may be the consequence, if you send it under cover to Mr. —. The numbers of your tickets is 41,011,
C 41,012,

* Wrote on the same sheet of paper with another letter.

41,012, and 41,050, and I heartily wish success to attend them, whether for yourselves or Miss — only, to whom best compliments. I have two guineas towards the payment. They are a guinea (and two English shillings premium), so I pay for you one guinea six English shillings. I left the country but ere-yesterday. I have seen J. W—. He says he is expediting the sale of Skinner's Row; but in the mean time will pay you the interest due, after term. My compliments, with M—'s, to good Mrs. —. We have been just seeing Mrs. — and the —, and they seem all as happy as heart can wish in their new relation, and in very good spirits, constantly engaged, all friends wishing to have them. I could not succeed in that desire till the 8th of next month, if we live and prosper; it is some time to look forward. I have a frank directed for M. W---d, Esq; which be so good to call for a month hence. Perhaps J. W. may do somewhat in that time. Captain — is but ill; he talks of going to Bath, but without his wife. The Colonel don't care to part with both; strangely selfish. We left our friends (thank God) very well; they talk of staying all winter in the country, which poor B. don't at all relish. My love to my sister and to yourselves, with M---'s, and believe me sincerely your affectionate, &c. M. K.

LETTER XV.

MY DEAR GIRLS,

Dublin, October the 23d, 1769.

HERE I am again sooner than you expected, or I either. Had I thought Captain — had gone so soon, I should have been inclined to have saved you the postage of your last; and I don't know how it is, but thrift in this article when it comes quite a propos, engages the attention of those who wish to be æconomists, more than it is worth; not but I think small articles are worth considering too! for from them larger are produced. Your cousin N— told you that I honoured the remainder of your last draft, I mean the factory half year's rent, which I will send to Mr. — for, you mention the money paid you by the T—. There has been some strange delays, the first not being yet got in; however you shall not be out of it, and hope it will arrive safe to you. I send also 5l. which is not due till the 14th of December next, and you will be so good to send me a receipt for it to that time. There is 3s. 6d. English your cousin M. sends for the geranium, with many thanks, and I send 9d. you paid Mr. P. for Miss —. Mr. W. talks, indeed positively says, he will pay you the interest which is due on your money in his hands, the second week in term. I wish he may; and if you can spare it, should think it adviseable to complete the 100l. 90l. odd of which is produced from your plate, which

which was sold, the furniture, china, &c. and I hope to hear of good security for it soon, and shall put it out, which has not yet been in my power to do. We were last Saturday at the ———; poor ——— begins to look better, yet still an air which gives her much a Modena appearance. She seems inclined to exert both religion and a good understanding, to recover and establish her peace of mind; and I am sure we all sincerely wish her to accomplish it. ——— was there, who looks vastly well; they made many inquiries for both of you. Your half year's rent from the factory is 6l. 11s. 8d. the year being 13l. 3s. 4d. so I remit you the 11s. 3d. which I am able to clear up to N. I was in the country when your letter arrived. Whether Miss ———s are gone or does go I am not sure; but they had a letter seven weeks ago, which I thought I could not finish soon enough, and another about a fortnight ago; so this must be my apology. M. joins in love to my sister and yourselves. How goes on your stomach? Mine is but very indifferent. Were I near those good waters, would give them another trial, tho' not in as large quantity as last year. Accept my sincere good wishes, and be assured of the affection of your &c. M. K.

A year's rent Stony-batter, due the 29th of Sept. last	£. 7	6	6
Half a year's annuity paid Miss W---s, and due the 14th of December, for which I am to have their accountable receipt to Mrs. W— as usual,	-	5	0 0
For the geranium from Miss W---d	-	0	3 9½
Miss ——— to P—	-	0	0 9
Deficient in Mr. ———'s rent	-	0	1 8
(turn over)		£. 12	12 8½

I send ten guineas	-	£. 11	7	6
A moydore	-	1	9	3
		£. 12	16	9

about 3s. 3d. over.

LETTER XVI.

Dublin, Nov. the 25th, 1769.

MY dear girls, I have yours of the 16th inst. and write now, it being about the time I promised to send this frank, and I hoped you would have told me in your last that you would remember to call for it. I inclose an epistle from Mrs. ———, and your cousins, who likes the flower very well, but says you are bad correspondents.

It would have been a great additional satisfaction to me to have heard you had got your trunk safe to Bath, especially as there is in it the coffee-pot and a cream ewre, which perhaps will be nabb'd; the key I lap'd in paper, and it was directed for Mr. — to be forwarded to you; one would imagine it had taken several trips back and forward, it is so long since it left this. Pray write as soon as you have got it, and that I hope is before now; the ship it went in, D. tells me, is the Draper, and the master's name M'C—. I call frequently on Mr. W. He tells me he expects hourly a person in town who is to pay to him a large sum, out of which your interest is to be paid. I am this day about placing your money on D. T---'s recommendation. He says there can't be better security, and I hope it will prove so. I am glad you got the packet, and heartily join with you in wishing poor Captain — may receive benefit from the waters. Poor Mrs. — is much discomfited at not being with him. She seems to have but little enjoyment of herself. I sent you the money, it being so inconvenient drawing for small sums. It is not the T---'s dilatoriness which occasions that money not being paid, but the tenant took advantage of my aunt S---'s will being mislaid, and would not pay; now that is got still he will not; the first money is still unpaid to me. I dunn in your names, but to no purpose; it is now put into Mr. P---'s hands; so how it will be I know not. B. T. complains much on the same account. Pray our compliments to good Mrs. —. I wish she could take a peep at her nephew. I think the more peeps she took the better she would like him. I always valued my friend — highly; yet really think there is the fairest prospect of her being disposed off extremely well. There seems to be good sense, good nature, with a gentle unaffected manner, yet persuasive, which engages her much and which I think will be productive of the most cordial friendship. Miss — you hear, I suppose heard, have thoughts of going to their brother —, at Sentillary. He writes for them in the kindest and most pressing way. They sent his letter and asked the advice of the Major, who gives it them very sensibly and friendly, but leaves them to judge for themselves. They have quit thoughts of going for this year, but intend next, if things remain as they are. I rejoice that it is put off at least; a winter's journey and so long a voyage would have been frightful for poor —, whose health is but delicate. Miss — has been here six weeks, is in very good health and spirits, is much attached to England and wishes to return to it. I should have been ashamed of my country folks had there not been a good appearance of them at Mr. Wade's ball. In short, I think — has shewn in a much worse light since the renewing of hostilities, which the news-paper was full of. I hear the new rooms are rising apace. I wish they may not hurt Bath. Did you receive a letter of mine under cover from Mrs. —, intended

intended going by Miss —s, who are here yet, and a letter of mine sent back to me since Captain — went? My love to S---; she might have squeezed in a few lines. I am always glad to hear from her. My love to my sister, how is she? still constant to her visit to the Pump-room. Pray write soon. You may inclose to Mr. —, jun. now and then. Perhaps Captain — gets franks, and will give you a list. Accept my love, and believe me sincerely, &c.

M. K.

LETTER XVII.

DEAR M—,

Dublin, March the 2d, 1770.

I Received your's of Feb. the 14th, last Saturday. We heard of your welfare through good Mrs. C—, to whom best compliments, and very glad to hear she has had so good a winter. If I had it in my power to have given you both a more favorable account of your affairs, I should not have been so long without writing, nor indeed did I imagine that you would require all that strictness from your attorney, (which no doubt I am by your appointment) when I hoped you would believe that nothing should be neglected on my part, which appeared to me for your advantage. The money arising from the sale of household goods, and china,

which amounted to	-	-	£. 43	4	0
The produce of the plate alone	-	-	51	9	6
Last year's prize, received a guinea and half, allowed			2	5	6
			<hr/>		
			£. 96	19	0

I paid Mr. W--d for 3 lottery tickets, the numbers of which I sent you

-	-	£. 3	14	9
---	---	------	----	---

I deduct the last article, remains total

-	£ 93	4	3
---	------	---	---

I lent to it 6l. 15s. 9d. which makes up 100l. and is put out to Mr. — and his brother-in-law, Mr. —'s personal security, for which I have a bond in your names, dated November the 18th, 1769. D. T. recommended the security as unquestionable, and I hope so it will be found; the gentleman lives at —, is of good character, and has a little estate, but any produce from it cannot be expected for near half a year, for no one pays till some months after it is due. This sum is at 6 per cent. You very shrewdly remark my dear M—, and "I do allow, it is not equally satisfactory to suppose Mr. W. has paid your money, as to be sure he has." I promise you if he had you should have known it, nor is it owing to my negligence. I have wrote often, and have gone to him often, yet still has he put me off: he is offering Skinner-row concern to sale, and has been doing so some time past; whether he

expects

expects too high for it I can't say. I was with him Wednesday last. He tells me he is going to England about business to transact for employers. He assured me that in about a fortnight you should be paid principal and interest, the latter of which I could never get a penny of, tho' I urged it very strong, and the want you were in of the money. I think it high time all matters should be settled between you and him, and your cleverness might perhaps have accomplished it, though mine was not equal to it. I received a guinea and half prize, the others of your's with my own, were blanks. I really am quite at a loss why you charge me with keeping you ignorant of your affairs. I fancy if you examine my letter that I told you whenever Jo. W. paid, I would let you know. I doubt not but you are good managers, and tho' you were not, cannot think myself accountable. You say my sister too is uneasy at the ignorance I keep her in. I flatter myself that both one and other of you will find when you examine, that I have been upright in conducting both your affairs, tho' delays will come between in putting out money. I have now 150l. of her's to put out, which I gave notice of a great while, yet have not met with security to my mind. I shall write to my sister when I do. I must then tell her how badly her goods sold: it will be doubly vexatious should she come to Ireland soon. I heartily wish every thing which would be for your happiness and comfort. You can't, I presume, be equally anxious as you were when separated from S. to whom my affectionate love, and tell her the covers of her chairs are here; and they got a good whisking this day. You never have told me did you get the things in the trunk safe. Captain ——'s arrival surprized us all, and his wife more than any, for she had wrote to countermand his summons home; but he was so punctual to the call, he did not wait for it, and she is as angry with herself as can be, that he did not give Bath a fairer trial; and she afterwards heard too a good character of the physician in whose hands he put himself, which she was doubtful of at first. Pray my compliments to Mrs. ——, and tell her the regret I feel at not having met her at Bath. Our Mrs. —— has had a very indifferent winter; in short her stomach is so poorly, and she is so thin, that I am wishing the time for her going to England, hoping it may recruit her. I know not what will be the result, but the person in possession refuses to pay any rent of the concern, which you and B. T. ought to have; the two last years I have paid you, is still in his hands, and he urges that the lease is a bad one. Aunt T. has laid the papers before Counsellor S. how it may turn out its hard to say; as to the precise sum you may take up, I am sure I can't say; there is half a year due from Mariborough-street, and I shall pay it when you draw, whether it be received or not. I suppose the sum you want if you leave Bath must be your direction, and I think

think you will take care that your draft shall be honored. I tire you perhaps as well as myself, eyes especially. Pray remember us to all inquiring friends, and believe me your affectionate and obliged, &c. M. K.

L E T T E R XVIII.

MY DEAR GIRLS,

Dublin, April the 3d, 1770.

DOCTOR ——— intending for Bath, determines me to write by him, tho' I have no alteration in your affairs to advise you of, nor have heard from you since my last writing to you. Jo. W--- is an uncomfortable person to deal with. I have not yet been able to bring him to any payment, not even of the interest. He says he was quite sure the concern in Skinner's-row would have been sold by this time, and all paid. He now declares that the March rent shall certainly pay a year and half's interest; but where folks elude how can one depend. He urges the necessity he was under to raise considerably for Mr. ——— this last year, on account of his getting another place, and being obliged to move and settle himself. This is very well for them, but not so well for you, as I am sure he hears open. I take the opportunity of Doctor ———'s portmanteau to convey what money is due to you that I could pick up; perhaps you may have taken it up at the other side of the water; if you should have done so, it will not be attended with any great difficulty to have it adjusted between us. I have received from your cousin E—— your half year's interest. I send five pounds on the annuity account, which is allowed to you, by the account with which my sister is furnished half a year before you receive it; so please to send me a receipt dated 14th of June 1767, and oblige me by sending a receipt also for that five pounds I sent by Captain ———, due the 14th of December 1769, which I have mislaid and cannot find. I send you also Mr. ———'s half year due last February, six pounds eleven and eight pence, which I hope will arrive to you safe and in good time.

Half a year received from Mr. E. W---d	-	£. 12	0	0
Half a year's rent from Marlborough-street concern		6	11	8
Half a year's addition to your salary, to be accounted for by receipt as usual, but to June 1767	-	5	0	0
		<hr/>		
		£. 23	11	8

I send twenty-one guineas, which is 23l. 17s. 9d. they being better carriage. You will let me hear from you on the receipt of them, and tell me did you get all the things safe in the small trunk by Bristol, for you have never yet told me, did you or not. I send my sister's letter open: You seem'd anxious to know the situation

situation of her affairs, and that will inform you. Please to seal it before you deliver it to her. I hope Mrs. — continues to breathe free and be well at Bath. My best compliments attends her and all inquiring friends. Mrs. — never to be forgot. I have tired myself heartily, having notice that the ship may fail tomorrow, when I did not expect it would for a week. God bless you both. Believe me to be sincerely your affectate and obliged,
M. K.

LETTER XIX.

MY DEAR GIRLS,

I Hope that Doctor — will be as speedy conveyance for this letter as by post: and I having seen J. W. since, and have had a proposal from him, which I must have your opinion of before he has an answer. I did speak to him very roundly, indeed was rather bitter. I asked him did he intend to be always a goad and thorn in the sides of his friends, and that I was quite weary with only being amused and put off, after positive promises. He cheated a great deal, said it was out of his power to help it, but offered to give up in trust till you are paid principal and interest, 50 or 60 pounds a year, in case he cannot dispose of the concern or borrow money on it, to pay off all at once; and what do you think of this proposal? The eligible thing would be no doubt, to have it together. But if the same trifling continues, better take it as it can be got. Consider of it, and let me know your determination, and as soon as you can, for I cannot be satisfied to do any thing in it till I hear from you. I saw Mr. P— this day: he says he hopes that matters will be adjusted to our wish in regard to the Stony-batter affairs; but where law is in the question, tediousness is constantly connected, consequently when it may be determined it is hard to say; we will hope the best. I sent the first packet in vast hurry, supposing Doctor — would go next day, and I write this in the parlour among the girls chattering; so must beg you to think as favourable as possible of mistakes and scrawl. Among the Lasses is agreeable Miss —, who begs you to accept her love and best compliments. You heard of the Fancied Ball given by the Lord Lieutenant; *there* was a very numerous, elegant and pleasing appearance, and gave great pleasure to all degrees of people. P. W---d is here, and desires her love to you both. There was a letter of her's in Miss —'s possession a long time, and she means to write now if she finds an opportunity to send it to town in time. It is late, very near dinner, so must bid you adieu. Be assured of the sincere friendship of much your's, &c.
M. K.

April the 7th, 1770.

LETTER XX.

LETTER XX.

Dublin, June the 20th, 1770.

MY dear M— I received your's of the 6th instant not till the 19th, and should have wrote this post, tho' I had not heard from you. Mr. W. having the same day compleated the payment of your two years interest, and that of my dear S—'s to the 12th of last May, two years interest being twenty-four pounds. I am exceedingly concerned that your health demands a particular attention. I hope care will in a short time conquer your complaints, though you do not tell me what they are. Mr. —'s judgment I have a very good opinion of. Had Mrs. — determined on Southampton, it would have been accomplished with more ease, but going with her must be a strong inducement. I heartily wish you your health, and that your jaunt may be in every respect agreeable and salutary. You tell me Mrs. — stays a fortnight in London, but don't say when she leaves Bath, so can't guess what time you may want money. N. and I have agreed if a private hand presents that is safe, we send you twenty-one guineas, which is 2s. 3d. short of 24l. or if you should arrive in London and not find such a parcel, you have credit on Mr. — for twenty pounds. You don't tell me if you received a guinea and half from Doctor —. I gave it — a month ago, and think he did not forget it; it was on the lottery account. I was blank, as well as two of your parcel. I hope my sister is well as usual: you say nothing of her. S. will have a loss of your company, but it will be made up to her when you return in health and spirits. I am very sorry Mrs. — declines: she had happy spirits, and will again I heartily wish: my affectionate compliments to her. Mr. — will be so good to let you have twenty pounds or guineas, and draw on Mrs. M. K. or Mr. M. W---d and Son, which will be honoured by either. Tell S— not to give up her walking. Pray my compliments to Mrs. —, and Miss —s, which I presume you will see. My love to sister W—, to Mrs. —. I rejoice that she is well. Mrs. —, Mrs. —, the Captain, and ladies, were with me last night, and all extremely well but the poor girls, who are low from not having heard from the major a long time. My dear S— give my love to my sister, and will be much obliged to her for a copy of her account,* which I sent her by Doctor —; you will be so good to copy it for her; it will save her trouble; and whenever a private

D hand

* An account of remittances made to my mother, by the late M. W---d, Esq.

hand offers, it may be sent. I heard Mrs. — was to-come soon. I believe she would bring it me. My dear girls, may God bless you both, is the sincere prayer and wish of your affectionate, &c.

M. K.

M. W--d's love attends you, with that of the family. Jo. W--- says he is about to sell, and hopes to pay your principal soon.

LETTER XXI.

Hollywood, August the 10th, 1770.

I Received my dear M—'s letter with great pleasure, it having brought you to your journey's end, through such length of way, and consequently great fatigue. Indeed I felt for you on those accounts. I hope the complaint in your eyes has taken leave; it is a most troublesome visitation, and while it continued, I presume must have prevented your bathing. I rejoice that Mrs — was so friendly; indeed it is quite of a piece with her constant conduct, as far as I have ever experienced: pray remember me to her, or any of the family which are there, in a particular manner, for I respect them all. Mrs. — takes this letter part of the way; and I send by her, which she is so good to take the care of, the 20 guineas, which you took up from Mrs. —. Your cousin E— directed them in the common way of business, and she will send the packet. She sends her love to Mrs. —, in answer to her wanting to know where she intends to settle, "she don't know herself," means to go to London, and be directed from thence by Doctor H—: both she and — are much better: she desires to be remembered to you. And pray let Mrs. — have my affectionate remembrance. I hope it was not want of health which sent her there; and I flatter myself also my dear M— has no very bad complaint; however the journey and bathing will rouse your spirits, and I sincerely hope will have very efficacious consequences on your future as well as present health, and the thorough establishment of it. Doctor — and Miss — are returned a few days: she pleased me much by telling me she thought you both looked very well, and did not complain when she saw you. You did not tell me if you got the produe of the lottery ticket. — took it from me 2 months ago, and said he would write to his father to pay it to you; and I think he hardly neglected it. I write to S—; not a word have I heard from her since you left her. I hope you have at last got lodgings to your mind. You don't say what stay you mean to make. I am sorry my brother was out of town, which he very often is; writing to the Grecian Coffee-house will meet him if in town; it is the only address I have to him. Your cousin M— has had a bad head-ach, but is (thank God) better; she desires her love to you, and would say some little thing for herself,

herself, but is rather stupidish, so thinks you are better off in wanting it. Mrs. — and family are in view: I get them to take my letter to town, so must bid you adieu, when I have assured you of the sincere affection of &c. M. K.

J. W. still talks of disposing of his concern in Skinner-row, but nothing is yet done, nor is the affairs of Stoney-batter yet adjusted, I shall hope to hear from you soon.

LETTER XXII.

Dublin, 26th Nov. 1770.

I Hope *this will answer my dear M——'s intention, and will arrive in such time as will prevent my sister's being uneasy. You will be so good to send me the receipt for 5l. which you and S. receives and gives an accountable receipt to your mother. You know I cannot have any money of your's in my hands; the fourteen pounds which I have paid you from Stoney-batter I have not yet received a penny of. Mr. — will not pay one half year till another is due; and indeed that is thought in general good pay. The interest of Mr. —'s money is but just due, the sum being so small one could not ask for it more than once in the year; however, if a private safe hand had been going, I would have sent you the two latter, and waited till I had got it in. As to Stoney-batter, we hope it will be put to rights. There is three years due this last September, two of which I advanced you. That Mrs. — was friendly and civil I make no doubt, but am sure you were as useful and convenient to her, so obligations I take to be mutual; but wish it had not so wholly engrossed my dear grateful M——'s letter so much as to prevent my being gratified in hearing that Margate was useful and agreeable to you, and how long you staid in London. I cannot construe what you hint at in regard to your uncle; but all happiness and success attending you both, be assured, is the sincere wish of your affectionate, &c. M. K.

It is candle-light, and my eyes but indifferent.

D 2

LETTER XXIII.

* A Bill of G. H——, on Messrs. A——, J——, and Co. for 61l. 16s. 5d.

L E T T E R XXIII.

Dublin, the 14th of Jan. 1771.

MY dear M——, you see by disagreeable experience how precarious this method of doing your business is. I have been I assure you, and so have we all been, in the utmost uneasiness from the apprehension of your losing that money: appearances are now better, and I hope you have a favourable account of the affair: for the future you had better, I think, (and so does your uncle W---d) keep in the tract of getting your money from Mr. ——, by drawing bills on me, by which the danger of bad bills will be totally avoided at the expence of a few shillings. Mr. —— being the person who advised you to send for a bill, I am surprized you did not bring it to him to put you in the way of transacting it. Did you not know as soon as a bill was endorsed, that the endorser is the mark? L—— knew this, and therefore was careless whether he sent it for acceptance or not till it was due, loses the time for acceptance, then comes on the endorser. Well, I heartily hope your experience will not be very dear this time, tho' my fears were many this morning. I have received the interest money due by Mr. ——. Your next bill must make up to you the deficiencies of your last, by my sister taking English money. All our love to her, S——, and yourself, and believe me sincerely your affectionate &c.

M. K.

L E T T E R XXIV.

DEAR MADAM,

Feb. 11th, 1771.

I Received your letter of January 14th, and one from Mrs. —— to my mother: the latter we got by meer accident, it having been carried to, and opened by, a Mrs. W—, in Milford-street. You must excuse me if I cannot agree with you in regard to Mr. ——. His behaviour through the whole affair was genteel and generous, as I could have expected from one in a much higher station. I beg to know why, when Mr. —— was to be at the expence of the protest, I should pay 6s. 1d. costs, and receive but 4s. 3d.?

I am much obliged to you and my uncle W---d for your advice. I will consider it with all the seriousness and attention it has a claim to, coming from so near relations. I presume Mr. —— has by this time paid the rent due the first of last August: that, and the interest money paid by Mr. ——, together with the 5l. (for which we will send a receipt) we were to receive from you the 14th of last December, we will take up in two or three days of Mr. ——.

The repugnance I have to being in debt, Mr. W---'s tardiness, and the precarious situation I may be allowed to fear that money is in, from his trifling with us, when we required it to be paid in full two years ago, determine me to take up such part of it, as, by enabling me to relieve myself from all incumbrances, will make us regret the rest less, should we happen to lose it. I beg, therefore, you will acquaint Mr. W--- that I have occasion for a sum of money, and desire he will immediately pay in to Mr. ---'s bank, to be remitted to me, fifty pounds of our principal money in his hands; the half year's interest of the whole 200l. and the remaining interest of the 50l. I take up. I will write to Mr. W--- in a post or two, to convince him that I am in earnest: and at the same time remind him, that my sister and I expect he will be ready to pay the remainder of both principal and interest the beginning of next May. I inclose the lottery tickets No. 39565, No. 39566, No. 39549, No. 39550. I am &c. M. W.

LETTER XXV.

MY DEAR M---,

Dublin, Feb. the 20th, 1771.

YOU mention in your's of the 11th instant, having received a letter from Mrs. ---, by meer accident! She must not have been acquainted with the direction; but I hope you are not inclined to overlook her civility in not having charged any commission, which the house had a right to, for negotiating that business. You beg to know "why when Mr. --- was to be at the expence of the protest, you should pay 6s. 1d. costs and receive but 4s. 3d.?" Your uncle W---d desires me to tell you, it arises from postage of letters to that house, made necessary by the jeopardy your money was in; of this your uncle and cousin E--- had their share; I don't know how to account for it; but instead of expressing pleasure that what looked exceeding threatening, (turned out fortunately) by having so sick a bill paid: there is an air of resentment and complaint in regard to the whole affair. Pray won't you allow, that if Mr. --- had not been sure of the endorser and that his mark was there, he would have sent the bill immediately for acceptance, which would have exonerated the indorser. I know you received your cousin E---'s letter*, tho' not

• DEAR COZEN,

Dublin, the 14th January, 1771.

I HAVE before me your favor of the second, and was indeed surprised to find that the bill we sent you the 24th of November, G--- H---, on A---, J---, and Co. was never sent for acceptance, or presented until it became due; the drawer, from the general scarcity of money here, about three

not the least mention of the contents do you make. Indeed my dear M--- it is very convenient to make friends in this world, and very desirable to keep those one has. Your cousin could not do more, he declares, and gave you proof of how well he thought of the gentleman whose bill he sent you, from having transacted so many upon his own account, and it was entirely owing to the friendship and gratitude he owed and expressed for your uncle, &c. house, and the large business they had done with him, that engaged him to have your bill discharged: he has since been obliged to abscond, and its thought his affairs are in but a bad way: so anxious as we were ourselves in the cause, you can't wonder that a difference of 1s. 10d. should be considered as very trifling to be taken notice of by you. Your cousin says, was he a creditor of Mr. — now, he would be glad of ten shillings in the pound: so my dear girl, think you have got off a bad bargain very well. I have sent your message to Mr. W---; he told your cousin the other day that he had

three weeks ago, failed, along with many others, but we hope he will be able to pay all, and believe him to be a very honest man, he was in as good repute as any man upon the Exchange when we took the bill from him, and for above a fortnight after; and bills that he drew ten days subsequent to yours on that house, were accepted and consequently discharged. Mr. L—, whom I see you passed it to, ought to have sent it for acceptance, and you would have had none of this trouble.—We have taken many thousand pounds of these bills within these six months, which were regularly accepted; but this is one of the disagreeable consequences attending sending remittances to you, who must be unacquainted with the method of negotiating them, and the secure way my father put you in of getting your money from the Bank, although you should pay a few shillings more in the Exchange, I am sure it is not worth your while to run risks to save it.

My love to my aunt and cozen S—, and believe me dear cozen,

Your sincerely affectionate humble servant.

P. S. I wrote to Mr. H— upon receipt of your letter, and this evening he has sent me in answer, that he forgot to advise Messrs. A—, J—, and Co. of it, but that he has now done it, and relies upon their paying the bill on presenting it, so I send it this night to Messrs. P—, and beg they will advise you as soon as it is paid, that you may either draw upon them for it, or get them to remit you the value by a Bank post bill.

My letter was as follows:

To Mr. W——d.

DEAR COZEN,

Bath, Jan. 2, 1771.

I Doubt not but you will be as much surprised as I was this morning, when the bill you sent us was brought back protested. I inclose both the bill and protest; and have given Mr. L— my note for 62l. 2s. 6d. (the money the bill was for, and the expences attending the protest) to save my mother the uneasiness I know it would cost her. I beg, therefore, you will lose no time in adjusting this vexatious affair, that I may be enabled to discharge my obligations to Mr. L—. Once more, I entreat you will let me hear from you as soon as possible. I am, &c.

had agreed for the sale of Skinner-Row, and thinks the bargain will take place as soon as lawyers will say the title is good, and then will pay every body. I hope the debt is a very good one : you know your own affairs best : it is to make himself easy Mr. W--- sells Skinner-Row; and while one owes, I think one cannot be so. I am sure you will carefully avoid the error which your aunt B--- and W--- run into, which was still breaking in upon the principal*, without considering, if I can't be maintained this year with so much, how shall I, if I live any time, be maintained with so much less. I think you are now saying, as you do in your last to brother W---d and myself, that you will consider it with all the seriousness, &c. it has a claim to, from so near a relation. Be this as it may, assure yourself that your happiness is an object of very near concern to me, and would wish to promote it. The 5th inst. I received Mr. — half year due the first of last August. I wish you may not have sent your draft till this comes to hand, you may then add the difference which comes to you from my sister, taking English money instead of Irish. It is a pity you did not tell her how the money was sent by us; some confusion would be avoided; had you wrote for English money† for her it should have been sent. I will get one of the Lads to see about the lottery tickets. I wish your Revd. cousin J---, who, I told you, determined your choice (among the tickets purchased in this family) could have procured you greater prizes, but believe you got all there was. He is now at Cork, attending a cure of but 6ol. and reads prayers twice a day. He has been recommended particularly to the Bishop; so hopes time, &c. may produce something more to the purpose. He was curate some months at Arklow, where, thank God, he was well regarded, and had a good commendation from people of great worth. J--- has a happy knack of not expecting too much, and being attentive and courteous to all who deserve his notice. I presume you have heard Doctor T--- is dead, was down at breakfast that morning : a happy exit. Tell dear S--- I take her apology in good part, am always glad to hear from her. My love to my sister and yourselves. Believe me your sincerely affectionate &c.

M. K.

Compliments to good Mrs. —.

M---- desires to be remembered affectionately to you both, tho' she says you seem to have forgot, her not forgetting your mother.

LETTER XXVI.

* See the first note to letter V.

† My mother usually drew for English money;

LETTER XXVI.

Dublin, April the 4th, 1771.

MY dear girls, I embrace, you see, every opportunity of asking you how you are. I hope your health is good, and that M's. little complaints have taken leave. You are not as explicit in regard to yourselves and my sister, as my anxiety for your good and well-being leads me to wish. Does my sister continue just in the same train, Pump-room walk, &c. I was much pleased to find you had your good friends the ——— so long with you; if still there, my compliments. I hope they get all the benefit possible from the Bath. My valued friend, Mrs. ——— conveys this to you. My compliments to her amiable sister. Jo. W— is now in London; he went on business for others; said he would certainly pay every body immediately. He intended returning by term, which is this day fortnight. He disposes of Skinner-Row concern; the title he told me was before lawyers, and only waited their sanction for the sale to be perfected. I send you a copy of how accounts stand between you and I.

Money received for M. W—s.	
Received from J. W. Esq; 2 years	
interest on 200l -	£ 24 0 0
Aug. the 2d, received from	
Mr. —, $\frac{1}{2}$ a year's rent to	
the 1st of Feb. 1770 -	6 11 8
Dec. the 15th, 1770, received	
from Mr. S—, a year's	
interest due Nov. the 18th,	
1770, on 93l. 4s. 3d. -	5 10 0
Feb. the 5th, 1771, received	
from Mr. — half year's	
rent, due Aug. 1st, 1770, -	6 11 8
March the 30th, received for	
prizes in the lottery -	3 15 0
Received from Mr. W—d,	
to make up deficiency in	
M. W—'s payment by Mr.	
K—, Mrs. W— hav-	
ing received English money	
instead of Irish, to their loss,	
which, with the 14d. 11s.	
English money, the men-	
tion makes 5l. Irish -	4 5 9
	<hr/>
	£ 50 14 1

Money received for Miss W—s to	
this time.	
Sent by Doctor —, Mr.	
— half year to Feb. the	
1st, 1770, some time in	
April - - - - -	6 11 8
July the 31st, paid (at their	
desire) by Mrs. —, to	
Mrs. —, for value taken	
up by M. W—, -	22 15 0
Sept. the 8th, paid for lottery	
tickets, at their desire, -	2 5 6
March the 12th, 1771, paid	
at their desire, an English	
bill, - - - - -	17 6 8
	<hr/>
	£ 48 18 10
Have in hands, - - -	1 15 3
	<hr/>
	£ 50 14 1

39,567, one of the four numbers I purchased for you, is a 15s. prize

prize, and 39,572 is the same, the others blanks. There are three of the numbers my brother gave you also 15s. prizes. You have dabbled much with 15. I would my brother's wish had taken place as to their being hundreds. Those seeming goods we are always willing to receive. I may say real goods when made proper use of; and I heartily wish this had been your time for fingering them. We appear to be in a disagreeable clipt stick in regard to Stoney-batter concern; not a penny got; but that is not the worst, we are threatened to be obliged to refund the profits for some time past, from a lease being made which we had no right to make. I hope so bad as this will not be the event; but what it will be, I cannot at present say, any more than it is unprofitable to you and me; for you know I have paid you two years which I never have received: and now dear S— don't easily take occasion to call me severe; I meant none to your aunts; if a friendly caution gives offence, I am sorry for it. Your happiness I again say is no trifling object to me. Your ——— Miss ——— is married to a Mr. ———, a Church of England parson, a pretty young man, but not very rich; they have between them about 150l. per annum; discretion must be exercised. It was said ——— was engaged to ———, would have gone to ———; its certain a ——— must wear the willow now. M— joins in love to sister and yourselves; Believe me sincerely your affectionate &c. M. K.

L E T T E R XXVII.

DEAR M—,

Dublin, May the 8th, 1771.

I Hope you will find yourself pleased with the method we have taken to send you your money, and that of my sister's, and S—. You spoke of Mr. L—; he would have charged you one per cent. more; and these bills we look upon as equal. You promised to send me a receipt for your mother's last fifty pounds English, but it has not been done yet. You must also send me a receipt for the five pounds fourteen shillings odd, you had over and above when my sister took fifty pounds English, instead of Irish, which we sent her, and the four pounds odd to make it up. you know I accounted for in my last settled account the last time I wrote to you. Your bill at present is 13l. 15s. 3d. Irish, 12l. of which is the half year's interest paid by your uncle, and 1l. 15s. 3d. is the balance, which was in my hands; these two sums make 12l. 12s. 6d. English. Brother W---d thinks you had better transact this business with Mr. ———, who will charge at the rate of a shilling every ten pounds; if you can get it done cheaper or without expence, you must be sure we can have no objection. Your interest is all we can be anxious about. Exchange is very high
E here

here as well as with you. These bills cost 9 per cent. If you chuse to have bills hereafter, we will get you the best we can; but you must take notice they are at your own risque, should the people prove insolvent; whereas by drawing, though you may pay higher exchange, you run no risque; and be assured you were particularly lucky in H—bills, no other of his debts being since paid. Brother W---d's advice to draw for your money there, was wholly owing to the risque you run*, and there being so little saved; then if you could wait a little when exchange is so high, that might save you something. God bless you both. I write to my sister on the other side. Believe me sincerely &c.

M. K.

LETTER XXVIII.

Dublin, May the 30th, 1771.

M^v dear S—, for perhaps your sister is nearer to us than you before this can reach you, therefore my address is to you only. I write in hope it may overtake her, and when I can certainly tell her that Mr. W— is in treaty for Skinner-Row with Baron Smith, and that your uncle is here and knows it to be so, and that the price is fixed, and nothing is likely to retard the affair, the papers being in the hands of council to shew the title clearly. She may be well pleased to have an expensive journey saved her, when I am certain her being here will not, nor cannot expedite matters, no not a day; and I am apprehensive it must be inconvenient to her at this time, as the expence of Margate jaunt is not yet cleared; however when health was in question, no means for it should be neglected; in this case I do think there was no cause to suspect that there were not friends both capable and willing to do what ought to be done, in this or any thing else which concerned your interests. Miss M--- tells me of drawing for money; undoubtedly, I shall honour her bill, tho' it may put me to inconvenience; a farthing I shall not get of Mr. W---'s money till the bargain is compleated; and in truth money is so scarce here, a farthing of my own I cannot get out of people's hands; besides fourteen pounds odd that I have paid: this Miss M—— takes no notice of. I should like a jaunt each summer too, but cannot afford it. I assure you that going to law would soon sink the principal Mr. W. has of your's. it is an expensive and a tedious expedient, and they shall be honoured by me, who will use every soothing and fair method, before that

* He told me it was on account of my mother's forgetting to send receipts.

that of law for recovering and keeping their property; but neither your uncle nor any one else have any doubts of the sincerity of Mr. W's intentions in regard to the sale of Skinner-Row at this time; and keeping him in good humour, I take it, is the likeliest means for expedition in payment. I hoped I had taken a method of writing to my sister, which might have answered every purpose and saved her postage, if she had not been pleased, which did not strike me; it was I alone that she could blame; but Miss M--- said she would speak to Mr. — as to the part which concerned her health, and any thing else was immaterial. I can't help thinking, that the complaint in her foot was the gout; if so, it is probable it will be a remedy to the complaint in her fingers, and I hope other evils. Pray my love to her. My sister W---d is in town, desires her's may be joined with that of all this family. My dear S— take care of yourself. Believe me to be your sincerely affectionate &c. M. K.

LETTER XXIX.

DEAR M—,

Dublin, June the 20th, 1771.

I Received your's of the 7th. I hope and believe your business will be expedited full as much as if you were here: you are saved an expensive journey; and this family are so full already by my brother W---d being unluckily confined by a fore leg, and brother K— being with us, that my sister had not a hole to ask you to. Law is tedious, so are lawyers. My brother is of opinion the present delays are unavoidable, and but the common consequence attending those kind of things. The bond you speak of, I had not forgot. Your uncle had spoke to Mr. W---, he told him as he did me before, that his aunt W. had mentioned every other article that she was engaged in, or for, and not a word of that. He allowed (as I have before told you) that he had said he would admit the bond, as if to the fore, and would be determined by Counsellor —'s opinion*. Indeed he also told my brother, that

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you

* Mr. W — said, that the legacies my aunt W — had bequeathed to my sister and I, invalidated the debt that bond was for. We did not think it equitable that they should. This was what was to be submitted to an arbitration.

you had treated him with so much hateart, and seemed to hold him so low in your esteem, that he can be scarcely expected to take any trouble about it; however, he is to draw a case, which he is to shew to us, and if approved by us, and that you, &c. thinks well of this method, let me know as soon as you can, and do you and S— recollect, if you can, who the bond was made payable to, whether to my sister or all to three of you, as you were all concerned in it: if either of you had come on this business, it should have been S— preferable to yourself, as she, I presume, is sure she left the bond in the desk, when she left her aunt W----'s house, which, I suppose, she could give oath of, if necessary; but we all know, if law was the resource, the sum that bond was for would go but little way in defraying the expence. I hope those letters you mention to have, where your aunt W— acknowledges owing you money after the date of your receipt for the ten pounds, mentions also that sum being in part of the bond. Pray send the whole paragraph relative to it in your next, and observe we wait your determination, whether the matter is to be left to an arbitration, and if so, whether Mr. — is agreeable. We fix on him from a thorough good opinion of him both as a lawyer and man
of

† To J—— W——r, Esq;

SIR,

March 29th, 1769.

I wrote before Christmas, and desired that you should be informed, that my sister and I expected you to pay in the two hundred pounds bequeathed to us by my aunt S—— W——, as soon as the year allowed you by law for the payment of the legacies, was expired. But as I find it has been neglected, I am under a necessity of troubling you with this, to let you know, that my sister and I join in requesting that you will pay the aforesaid two hundred pounds into the hands of my uncle M—— W——d, as soon as it becomes due, (that is, some time in May 1769) who shall be impowered to do every thing necessary to secure you from any future demands upon that account. —But that, Sir, is not the only demand I have upon you: In my mother's name, my own, and my sister's, I demand from you, as my aunt W——'s executor, the sum of Forty Pounds due from her to us; the interest of it for eleven or twelve years; the interest of fifty pounds for three or four years more, previous to a discharge you have of mine for ten pounds of the money; the debt having been originally fifty pounds. For this 50l. we had her bond, my aunt B—— also becoming bound for the payment of it. But it seems the bond cannot now be found. I am willing to believe it has been over-looked, and think of going to Ireland in order to make a more particular search for it; in the mean time, supported by the testimony of a good conscience, it bearing witness that I seek only for my own, I boldly assert our joint claim to the above-mentioned forty pounds, with the lawful interest of it, for, at least, fourteen or fifteen years; which claim I will support with all the vigour that truth and justice, animated by the just resentment of such ungenerous treatment, can inspire me with.

I intended to have wrote to Mrs. W——, was very much inclined to be her friend, and hoped to have found a friend in her; but this is no time for compliments.
I am, &c. M—— W——.

of strict integrity. I have your letter, which acknowledges my sister having received fifty pounds English by H—— bill, and it is all I got, but it is sufficient, it was last November. You tell me after you had received your 12l. which was your half year's interest, that there remained but 14s. 11d. instead of five pounds, which was intended for you and S—. Be so good to look over the account I sent you last, and you will find that I account with you for 4l. 3s. 4d. to make the 14s. 11d. five pounds deficient by my sister taking English money, which, as she did not write for, did we expect she would. I reminded you before of a receipt for this, but you did not send it, but drew on me Feb. the 16th last by a draft, for 16l. English, which you tell me is to be answered by Mr. ——'s half year 6l. 11s. 8d. Mr. ——'s year's interest five pounds ten*, 5 10 0 and this very five pounds which I account with you for 5 0 0

£ 17 1 8 which is within a trifle of the draft you drew; and you send me a receipt for the latter, but I have no acknowledgement for that paid, or made good from H——'s deficiency as above. I hope I make myself understood, that you will send a receipt, and consider your next gale paid, as I have paid it to my own loss. You think you are injured by not receiving the exact money you are charged with; but that proceeds from your not knowing the nature of exchange. There is charge constantly for remitting money; and if you don't take it up and pay at the other side, you must at this. Brother W. says it is the constant course of business, and nothing varies more than exchange; in short, it is what I don't myself understand, and always supposed the friends which took the trouble, did it properly for me. My love to sister and dear S—. Be assured of the sincere affection of your &c.

M. K.

Pray let us have by the return of the post, any evidence or proofs to strengthen your demand, or makes the matter clearer in regard to the bond.

Mr. and Mrs. Barry are here, and playing to most crowded houses. You saw D. —— and rib, to be sure; if still with you, all our love,

LETTER XXX.

* The money in Mr. ——'s hands was 100l. at six per cent. The remaining 10s. my aunt kept for a year's interest, upon the money she lent us to make up that sum. See letter XVII.—Letter XXIX.

LETTER XXX.

MY DEAR GIRLS,

Dublin, June the 27th, 1771.

TO obviate your objections to my last letter to my sister, I direct this and only leave you to seal it, which she need not see you do, for where there is no particular business, I think she has no objection to saving postage when it can be done properly. I find I have a receipt of her's for the 50l. English, by H---'s draft, which (I beg your pardon) I had forgot: it is Mr. P---'s opinion in regard to that bond, that Mr. W—— cannot be obliged by law or court of equity to pay it. Suppose he should be inclined to compound matters and allow some part, how must we act for you? My brother thinks it would be your wisest way, it being an affair necessarily attended with many difficulties. This moment your cousin P. W---d brings me your letter from D. T---. He is not well. The money* I shall get, I dare say, when he is well, tho' unexpected as to receiving it; but all as you please. I must presume you are in cash, when you find it less difficult to pay than acknowledge. For goodness sake my dear, what property or what papers have I of your's but the 100l. bond of Mr. ——'s and the lease of Marlborough-street: these shall be sent over to you, if you think fit, or direct into what hands they shall be put. I must own, you are mistaken, for it would not give me the smallest grief, were I dying, that all your property were in the hands of my executors, for sure I am it would be very safe. I am your sincerely affectionate,
M. K.

Best love to S——.

LETTER XXXI.

DEAR MADAM,

July 3d, 1771.

I Beg you will assure my aunt W---d, that she did not need to have any concern about not having a place to ask me to. I had never considered whether she had or not, nor was there any thing more remote from my thoughts than living (while in Ireland) upon any of my relations. My plan was to have lodged and boarded at Mr. ——'s, or with some family of his recommending, where I could have had a bed-chamber and wholesome food, such as would
have

* The two years rent out of Stoney-batter, which had not been received out of the concern, but my aunt had advanced to us, See Letter XXVII; the money she lent us to make up the 100l, See Letter XVII; and seven months interest, &c. upon the latter.

have suited my purse. I cannot but think there is some mistake between us, which I doubt not when you have leisure to consider it, you will be convinced of as thoroughly as I am. I send you an exact copy of the account you sent to us*, not long since. The mistake in it, where you say, "received from Mr. W---d, &c. 4l. 5s. 9d." you have rectified in your last, calling it 4l. 3s. 4d. Since that account we have received no money but 12l. 12s. 6d. English, 13l. 13s. 6½d. Irish; 12l. of it was the half year's interest my uncle pays us, due the 12th of last March; we sent you a receipt for the remaining 1l. 13s. 6½d. only calling it 15s. 3d. instead of 13s. 6½d. you having done so, and we took it for granted you were right. I beg to know what you paid for exchange? However it may vary, you always know what you pay, and what we are to receive, and it is certainly right that we should be made acquainted with it. I know we were charged 1l. 2s. 2½d. for Mr. H---'s bill. Our share of the exchange was but small, a little more than the sixth part.

I am so well satisfied of the equity of our cause in regard to the bond, that were law and equity always the same, I could not have the smallest objection to submitting it to the arbitration of any honest lawyer. Before we determine on that, we think we have a right to insist upon its being searched for carefully again; as my sister can, and will take her oath, that it was in my mother's desk at the time she left Ireland. There can be no doubt then, but that it is still to the fore, and only overlooked. This trouble I would have saved you, had I gone to Ireland. I hope therefore you will excuse it, especially as you promoted the lending of that money; and had it not been for you, and my uncle W---d, I question whether it ever would have been lent.

I be gyou will ask Mr. W--- whether if my aunt W--- had died intestate, the law giving us the half of her personal fortune would have set aside any just debt that she had owed us? if not, (and sure it is repugnant to common sense it should) where is the equity that a trifling legacy should? Are we to be considered as strangers to my aunt's fortune? Who had a prior claim? Not one. We had never done any thing to incur their displeasure, and they had never done any thing for us in their life time. It was plain too, that my aunts did not intend he should have all their fortune, as they refused

to

* See Letter XXVI.

to comply with his *proposal, of binding themselves to leave him a thousand pounds, when he was about to borrow that sum, on the strength of it, to purchase a place. Tho' it seems odd to me that in an affair submitted to a reference, Mr. W--- (a party concerned) should draw up the case; yet I am willing to submit to that too, on condition that the case be shewn to, and approved of by Counsellor ——. I am, &c. M. W.

L E T T E R XXXII.

DEAR MADAM,

July 13th, 1771.

I Flatter myself, that were I now in Ireland; it would be quite unnecessary to engage in an explanation of the letter I sent by Mr. T---, your construction being so very remote from my meaning, that it never once occurred to me it would admit of being taken in that sense. I can with truth say, that there is not a person in the world in whose hands I would rather have our affairs than in your's; but can by no means think it unreasonable we should desire to know what is in your hands. Besides, I told you that in my mother's desk, out of which the bond was lost, there was other papers of consequence, and that it was natural for us to wish to be sure they are all to the fore. I doubt not but your executors are equal to the trust you mean to repose in them; but let them be who they will, I frankly confess, I should be heartily sorry to be much in their power: However, this is not a matter to be uneasy about; you will probably out-live me, and I am sure I do not wish the contrary. &c. M. W.

L E T T E R XXXIII.

July the 15th, 1771. Dublin,

MY dear M--- insisted on another thorough search for this long absent bond; had she requested it, it should also have been done. Would we could all bear a little with one another. We each give

* J— W— has made further demands upon my aunts. It seems my uncle K— promised to lend him 900l. to purchase a place, upon condition my aunts would secure him, by binding themselves to leave J— W— that sum at their decease; he paying the interest during their life time. He (J— W—) says, he will want the other hundred to settle with his creditors, &c. will give security for it, and supposes as my aunts will be no losers, they will have more pleasure in obliging him than not. But they have positively refused.

S. W— to M. W—.

Sept. the 17th, 1760.

cause sometime or other; and it is noble to subdue resentments; therefore should be our study. However, I have the pleasure to tell you, my search this time has been successful, the bond I have found; it was in the middle draw of my sister's desk; how in two searches before over-looked, I cannot account, but rejoice with you that it is to the fore; it is payable to my sister only, you and S--- not mentioned; M. W---d and James G--- witnesses. My brother is out of town. I called on Mr. W---; he was not at home; I have wrote to him, and expects his answer. You seem to think I hindered you coming to Dublin. I really had no supposition but you were on your way when I wrote: if not, you had my opinion of a journey, which must be very expensive; that we thought would not answer a jot to the speedier settlement with Mr. W---; and that the sum in dispute would scarce be sufficient to defray charges; besides, I did believe you would not chuse to leave your sister, unless to answer some very good purpose. I need not tell you that you, are under no restraints but what discretion points out; and if you see that your affairs can be served by coming over, you will be wrong not to do it. I told you before, I but wait your direction to send over the bond for 100l. in Mr. ---'s hands of your's and S---'s, and the lease of Marlborough-street, or put them where you think they will be safer. There is half a year's interest paid by Mr. ---, due the 18th of last May. I wish one could meet with others as punctual. D. T--- is still ill; has an inter-mitting fever, which they hope he will get the better of soon. We have none of us seen him; quietness has been necessary for him. I make no doubt but your spare cash, you gave him, was very opportune; at the latter end of a journey purses grow lank, or perhaps you thought my affairs were so pressing, I could not wait till money came in. As I said before, so again, it must be my dear as you please; yet do allow me so much, for in the utmost good-humour I ask it, is there no difference in being drawn upon for money. I declare I must borrow without any notice*; (but the draft is gone) and for a friend whom I have been taking some little pains and trouble for (a long time), supposing it could be expected by me, that cash, which is so hard to be got to the other side, from both expence and risque, should be sent back here again. Mr. T--- sent word he had the money, and I will presume it was meant well, but must say, and I believe S--- will back me, it would have been more sensible had it staid where it was, than tho' I had it myself. Mr. and Mrs. --- and Miss --- send their com-

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pliments;

* We never drew for any money but our own, nor for that until it was due, and we had reason to believe it was paid; and notwithstanding the sums we drew for were so very trifling, we made it a rule to give previous notice.

ments; they lodge near us; I called to see them; she has consulted Dr. S---*, and will stay in town a few days longer; Miss is a lovely girl; I offered my service to go to the gardens with her, but she had had a swelled face; her mother was afraid. Mrs. says she could not get you to her but seldom, and wishes much you could both exert better spirits. It cannot be wondered at that my sister's situation of health should be a great draw-back on them. Would to goodness she would think of moving home, as I presume it would be more pleasing to you both to be nearer your Irish friends, who should have great pleasure in promoting your happiness. Till my sister does think of coming, now that there are two of you, and so united, and so much friendship subsisting between you, one would hope your good sense and reflection could reconcile disagreeable things which undoubtedly come in your way. You must be sensible of the regard you are held in, and that every body who knows you, will and does make allowance for your situation, and being confined very much to a parent's humour, who is apparently labouring under distemper, and surely giving your company is a great kindness, tho' not in your power to make all the return you could wish. Make the case your own; that is the true way. Could you have truer enjoyment than in entertaining two valuable agreeable young women, situated as you are yourselves. Mr. W. says he is taking all steps to discharge the whole of the legacies, and that it is not possibly in his power to pay off the interest due last May, till he pays all. The finding the bond, he says, makes no material difference, but removing suspicion that it was made away with, and the consideration of it is to be referred to a future day. I must explain about the five pounds farther in my next; it was the half year after the one Doctor—— took, that made up your last draft 16l. 16s. English. Best compliments to Mrs. C---, love to sister and dear S---. I fear I have tired you; I am almost so myself, but sincerely your affectionate, &c. M. K.

L E T T E R XXXIV.

Hollywood, July the 26th, 1771.

DEAR M—, I received your's of the 13th inst. by Mrs. C---†, who is much pleased at letters arrived from Miss C---'s; they write in great spirits, but what gives us all exceeding great pleasure,

* Doctor S——th.

† A very respectable family, but with whom we were scarce acquainted. There is frequent mention of them in these letters.

pleasure, is, that they seem now determined to return, when a visit sufficiently long is paid to their Sentilina friends, who received them with great cordiality. I can with pleasure say, I have not seen Mrs. — look so well a great while, and heartily wish our good friend Mrs. C — could have a peep at them all, as I had Monday last at Captain C —'s; a lovelier boy I have not seen than her nephew —; God bless the bonny fellow. My brother came to town last Monday, has seen Mr. W —, and tells him, though he would not me, that he will pay the bond; but won't allow he could be obliged to do it; he took umbrage at the note I wrote him, told my brother it was a very severe one, and that he had received many such from me, on your business, and he did not understand it. I told him indeed that in honor, not to mention conscience, I could not see how it was possible to evade acknowledging the debt, and that I presumed acting a part he must know was right, would afford him the truest enjoyment. I declare this is the worst I said to him, and I meant it to sooth rather than provoke, for I know nothing the latter ever helps us to. Its a matter of little consequence how he chose to interpret, though it seems rather hard on me to please at no side; however, as I hinted to him, acting right must give the reflecting mind, rational pleasure. My love to S —; her covers got a thorough airing one fine day a month ago, and they are in good order: she was in the right to mention it; I might forget. I should very unwillingly misconstrue what you wrote; I have not your letter here now; but shall take an opportunity of sending you the paragraph; the one now before me says, "there was other papers of consequence in your mother's desk, that its natural you should be anxious to know what is become of them, or whether they are to the fore or not." Be so good to tell me any I shall look for, and assure yourself, this or any thing in my power to serve you, you may but say what it is, and I will make any search and satisfy you in what I can. You are sensible I have no money of your's in my hands at present, but three pounds paid by Mr. — for half a year's interest due last May. My brother says, I may assure you that the papers of Skinner-Row are now before Counsellor R —, which proceeding is necessary to the sale of that concern; and he also knows these delays are not to be charged to Mr. W —, Mr. R — having told him it was not yet in his power to give attention to any business but that of Chancery while that court sits; its expected it will be up Monday next. Have you heard any thing of —, now Mrs. —? she and husband intended for Bristol, and presume Bath will not be neglected. Your cousin M — and I went to the Gardens with Miss —; a prettier or better behaved girl I did not see there. Brother W — is well enough, thank God, to have got again to the country; they, my brother K —, your

cousin M---, all join in best wishes and love to both of you, not forgetting my sister. Believe me to be your sincerely affectionate &c. M. K.

D. T— rather better have not seen him, nor heard &c. I hope to convey this by my dear Mrs. C——, and send it to her for that purpose. I long you should know Mr. W. is more reasonable.

My dear M—, I just now parted from Mr. W——; he says he has been at great expence bringing this business to bear; that he thinks a few days will now compleat the bargain, and that then he will certainly pay all, and could not before. Excuse this scrawl, not being at home, and willing to give you the freshest intelligence.

LETTER XXXV.

DEAR MADAM,

Sept. the 5th, 1771.

I Received your's of July 15th and 26th, but as there was not any thing in them that required an immediate answer, and we daily expected a more satisfactory account of our affairs, I deferred writing, and should not now trouble you with this, (being still in suspense) but that we have generally practised giving you notice, before we took up money. This day se'nnight we propose taking up at the bank the half year Mr. — paid, Mr. —'s half year due last February, which ought to be paid before this time, and the half year's interest of the 400l. my uncle has of our's, due the 12th of this month; the whole is 21l. 11s. 8d. Irish, 19l. 18s. 5½d. English.

I cannot but think it extraordinary, Mr. T--- should not yet have paid the money I gave him very near three months ago; when he pays it, you will please to send us the two last receipts we gave for money out of Stoney-batter, as you know we have not received it.

I am very glad the bond is found; since it is payable to my mother, you, as her attorney, must see that she has justice done her; and we must depend on her generosity for that, we have an equitable claim to.

I shall be much obliged to you to let us know, how many years there are to come of the lease of Caple-street.

I received my cousin M---'s letter, and will answer it as soon as I have any rational grounds to flatter myself, it will be possible for her to extract the least amusement from what I write; in the mean time, beg you will tell her, that Miss L--- has certainly compromised with Mr. L---. I am, dear Madam, &c. M. W.

LETTER XXXVI.

LETTER XXXVI.

MY DEAR M----

Sept. the 27th, 1771.

I Received your's of the 5th Sept. and Saturday the 21st came to hand your draft for 21l. 11s. 8d. which I accepted; 12l. half a year's interest, your uncle pays, Mr. ———'s half year to February, 6l. 11s. 8d. and half a year's interest on 100l. of your's and S---'s, 3l. os. od. 21l. 11s. 8d. Mr. ——— paid one half year when the other was due; of that I did not think it necessary to advise you; but your supposition was right, that it was paid. I want to clear up this small matter of the 5l. in dispute, and the copy of your account I sent you, look it over last April does it, the article mentioned thus, "Received from Mr. W---d, to make up deficiency in Miss W---'s payment, 4l. 3s. 4d. on account of my sister taking English instead of Irish money, Mr. H--- bill, last November, which, with 14s. 11d. is 5l. os. od." Mr. W---d made it English money. I account with him for it so, therefore you account with me. Your paragraph after receiving H---'s bill, runs thus, "We send cousin N--- receipts for 12l. Irish, which, as I apprehend, is 11l. 1s. 6d. English, that is 61l. os. 6d. (meaning with what your mother took) and the bill being for 61l. 16s. 5d. there remains 14s. 11d. and no more." This last was in your hands, and I made it up 5l. for which I have no receipt, which is farther made clear by the next sum you drew for, which is mentioned in (I believe it is) S---'s last letter to me, dated Feb. the 16th, 1771; her P. S. runs thus: "P. S. We received from Mr. ——— this morning on our draft upon you 16l. English, which answers within a few shillings to the money we are to receive from Mr. ———'s half year, Mr. ——— money, and the 5l. we receive from my mother, for which last we have sent our receipt; and annexed is your joint receipt to the 14th of Dec. 1770. You will allow if you had given a receipt for that money the November before, you could not have had it to receive then; indeed I paid it by H--- bill before it was due; but that I have often done, witness the two years of Stoney-batter.* You desire that the receipts may be given up to you; but there you forget; you never gave any, you may be assured, it will never be demanded, nor did I ever intend it till the matter was settled; but you have before this time Mr. T---'s receipt,

* Before she had received it, not before it was due. We had paid that money back again; and as our spirit would not admit of our keeping it, after what she had said, it was so far from being advantageous to us, that it was rather detrimental.

ceipt, where I acknowledged to have received from you that money. I have entered it in my account book, however will send you a fuller receipt. Mr. ———'s money you know I had the interest of: Why did you take the trouble to send that? The last receipt for the 5l. is in part of these monies sent by Mr. T---, and to the 14th of June, 1771. Now you must be satisfied I was right in this, and now to end it between us, it is paid, if you will allow it to be so. I will tell you how: I had twice occasion for 50l. for some months, I happened to have so much of my sister's in hands, I made use of it, I believe agents make free with their employers money without allowance, and really to the best of my knowledge, nothing offered to make use of it for her; so that shall clear the 5l. and save any more trouble about it. Let me beg you, if you have not done it, to have an account-book, and put down when your money is due, and when and by what drafts you have received it from me; this will be a satisfaction to all parties, and avoid mistakes. There are nine years from next May to come in Caple-street concern. I have been speaking to the agent who receives the G. rent about renewing, the concern belongs to a *Miss T---, who is at age. D. T--- has promised to examine the houses, and to consider what it would be worth: her time is above 200 years; the houses are very old, yet the standing is so good, that we have been thinking it would be well to bestow my sister's savings so; the profit rent is 70l. 10s. Your cousin M--- wrote last to you, supposing F. ——— was going to Bath next day; the letter was in the office, and the clerk sent with the other letters to the post-office. I should have said, tho' it is not pleasant, that Mr. W--- declares he cannot pay any money till the business of Skinner-Row is finished, and it is in lawyers hands. I shall not fail to press him. My brother thinks he is certainly transacting the sale of Skinner-Row: nobody knows more of law's delay than my brother; that is no comfort to you. I think he must go back without any settlement with that wretch C——, who has been amusing him these four months. This family joins in love to sister (pray how is she?) and yourselves. Believe me to be sincerely your &c. M. K.

My dear Mrs. C—— sends this. We have heard from the girls by your cousin M---: they were very well, and longing to be back. Best compliments to Mrs. C——.

LETTER XXXVII.

* Miss T——, daughter of the late J— T——, Esq.

LETTER XXXVII.

DEAR MADAM,

October 11th, 1771.

I Received your letter yesterday, and am very sorry to find by it, that an affair I looked upon as settled, still remains a subject of dispute between us, and for ought I see, is likely to continue so; the method of accommodation you propose, being such, as I can by no means admit of. God knows my mother's advantages (with regard to worldly matters I speak) has not been too many; and far be it from me to seek to deprive her of any of them: but were this out of the question, give me leave to say, I would sooner pay the money ten times over, than so meanly acquiesce in what must bring self-reproach and discredit upon me. I am not above receiving favours, nor, I hope, ashamed of acknowledging them when conferred; but to acknowledge obligations with my tongue, when my heart contradicts my lips, is what I never can, nor will submit to. We have (as you advise) an account-book, wherein all the money we have received since my aunt W---'s death, is set down. Our account makes us indebted to you 1l. 14s. 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. and no more; one penny of which is owing to Mr. ---'s mistake in drawing the last bill for 19l. 18s. 6d. instead of 19l. 18s. 5d. as I desired, and for which you have our receipt. In your letter of July 15th, you say, "I must explain about the five pounds, in my next, it was the half year after the one Dr. --- took that made up your last draft 16l. 16s. 0d. English." I go back therefore as far as April, 1770, at which time the ballance was against us 1s. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and here follows our account.

The balance of account against us		1770.	£.	s.	d.
1770.		£ 0 1 3 $\frac{1}{2}$			
April 15. Received by	Dr. ---,	23 17 9			
£ 22 1 0 English					
1770.					
April 15. Received from					
Mr. ---, due Feb. 1st,			6	11	8
From J. K---, Esq; due					
March 12th,			12	0	0
From Mrs. W---, due					
June 14th			5	0	0
			23	11	8
Overplus			0	6	1
			23	17	9
July 16. Received at Mrs.					
---'s		22 15 0			
21l. English. Short		1 5 0			
		24 0 0			
July 16. From J--- W---					
Esq; due May 12th,			24	0	0

1771.

Jan. 24. Received by a
bill of G. H—'s, - 12 16 1½
£. 11 16 5 English. ———

Feb. 16. Received at the
bank - - - 17 6 8
£. 16 0 0 English. ———

May 18. Received by a
bill of W—A— - 13 13 6½
£. 12 12 0 English. ———

Sept. 12. Received at the
bank - - - 21 11 9
£. 19 18 6 English. ———

1770.

The balance against us £ 0 1 3½

July 16. Received short 1 5 0

1771.

Sept. 12. Sunk by the
difference of English } 0 0 0½
and Irish money - }
£ 1 6 3¼

Jan. 24. From J. K. Esq;
due Sept. 12th, 1770, 12 0 0
Overplus 0 16 1½
—————
12 16 1½

Feb. 16. From Mr. —, —
Aug. 1, 1770, - 6 11 8
From Mr. —, Nov. 18, 1770, 5 10 0
From Mrs. W. Dec. 14, 1770, 5 0 0
—————
17 1 8
Overplus 0 5 0
—————
17 6 8

May 18. From J. K—,
March, 12th - 12 0 0
Balance for lottery tickets 0 0 3
—————
12 0 3
Overplus 1 13 3½
—————
13 13 6½

Sept. 12. From Mr. —, —
Feb. 1, - - - 6 11 8
From Mr. —, May 18, 3 0 0
From J. K—, Esq; due
same day * 12 0 0
—————
21 11 8
Overplus 0 0 1
—————
21 11 9

1770.

April 15. Received
overplus, - £ 0 6 1

1771.

Jan. 24. Received do. 0 16 1½
Feb. 16. ditto, 0 5 0
May 18. ditto, 1 13 3½
Sept. 12. ditto, 0 0 1

Deducted 3 0 7
1 6 3¼

Remained due to }
my aunt - } 1 14 3¼

This is all the money we have received; if you can prove that
you sent us any other in the time, except a guinea and a half by
Dr. —, for a lottery prize. You must let us know by whom

OF

or in what manner you sent it; for we never received it. I am very sensible you told me, that you had received from Mr. W---d the 4l. 3s. 4d. deficient in Mr. H---'s bill; but I own, I did not know before, that your receiving a sum of money belonging to us, was the same thing as if we had received it ourselves; and that drawing for that money, was to be considered as receiving it twice. On the whole, make it clear that we owe you so much money, and I will readily and cheerfully acknowledge the debt, 'till it suits us to discharge it; but unless you do, as I am not conscious of owing you more than I have mentioned, you must excuse my denying the debt.

The comfort of my life is interfered with, by the frequent necessity I am under of writing such long and contentious letters;* yet while my property, or independence, seem in danger, I cannot be passive. Do but consider me as one that is neither a knave nor a fool, and I am ready to ask your pardon, for any thing I have said in the course of our correspondence that may have given you the least displeasure. The truth is, you are provoking, and I high spirited. I hope Mr. W--- is in earnest, and shall expect to hear in a post or two that the money is paid. I do not know whether you remember, what I once told you in regard to Caple-street; it is proper, I think, that that should be inquired into, before my mother's money is laid out on it. I now take leave of business; and hope for the future my letters will be dictated by friendship alone. I am, dear madam, your affectionate niece, M. W.

L E T T E R XXXVIII.

MY DEAR S—,

Dublin, Oct. the 19th, 1771.

MRS. C—, my very good and agreeable friend, gives me another opportunity of addressing you at a cheap rate, and believe me, I have the greatest pleasure in every one that offers; it is the only method at present of having a little chat, or something resembling it, with friends, for which I have the most affectionate regard, and whose happiness commands my warmest wishes. Would it were in my power to make you both as much so as this

G

world

* I regret I did not keep copies of all those letters, though I have no question but there were many faults in them, arising from warmth of temper, or ignorance. I can only say, that if Mrs. K— has them, and will be at the trouble of publishing them, she has my free leave.

world can do. Mrs. ——— thought, and other friends have been of the same opinion, that you did not at all enjoy yourselves; that your manner of living was irksome and uneasy and not to satisfaction. Would to God your mother would think of coming home, and consequently restoring you to a number of dear connections; or if she continues where she is, alter her plan of living, so as to make your's more eligible and comfortable. She can well afford to live more generously, and nothing can plead her excuse, but alas! her distemper. Friends must be anxious when they see worthy creatures like you both not partaking in that share of tranquillity & ease, which is generally the lot of mortals who have good minds, and where health and competence is bestowed. Indeed to have a parent for ever in one's view, disordered as my poor sister is, abstracted from the world and the innocent recreations of it, is undoubtedly a damp, and a great obstruction to that cheerfulness and harmony that otherwise would enliven and sweeten those hours which pass, I fear, heavy and dull enough. What, my dear girls, can be done? Is it possible to procure any person that you think capable of that attention to your mother, in your places, which you have so amply and dutifully given, and to fix yourselves here among us, or in any other place or way within bounds you can compass, which may promote and procure a greater share of that ease and tranquillity, without which our enjoyments must indeed be very few. In one of my letters lately I questioned very close, but have not been yet answered; if there is any thing I can do or say to my sister, only let me know it? I address you dear S---, having a question about business; but let me first add to the other subject, that no arguments have been unessayed to persuade my sister to quit Bath; it was indeed before you went there chiefly, and will renew it again, if you think it will avail; as to the other, can you inform me where the parchments and papers are relative to Caple-street concern? I have searched every cranny of my sister's desk and drawers, and there is not a word nor paper about it, nor any lease whatever; those houses bring in 70l. a year; they are very old; however the standing us thought will make property there always valuable; they pay 12l. 10s. G. rent. Have you any good calculator as to the worth of a renewal, and how many years would be right to ask; for this we have not yet adjusted; but it would be a desirable addition to your fortunes, whenever that event happens to my sister, which we all sooner or later must meet with. I saw J. W--- this day; he assured me, that every difficulty was over, and he thought another week would enable him to pay you all. God send. I shall then call at his house with more pleasure, though not quite so often. Send me directions how to employ the money. I do hope that the payment will be now accomplished. I met B. T--- a day or two ago, who gives some hopes that

that there may be soon a settlement of the Stoney-batter affairs; of this more as I learn it. Mr. — has a letter for you near three weeks, and Mrs. — poplin; the bad weather, and his mother's fears for one of the best of sons, and indeed throughout uniform, has prevented his setting out; but hope it will take place in a few days. We have had but a dull summer, on account of brother W—d's tedious confinement; his leg became bad again, so as to be in the surgeon's hands again; thank God, he appears to be mending, though slowly. Your cousin M—'s letter informs you of her brother's intended marriage; and I have said so much already, that I fear I have tired you. May God bless you both, and make you as happy as his dispensations will admit, sincerely wishes your affectionate &c. M. K.

Sincere love to M—. Your uncle left us a week ago. If the inclosed is such as you and M. would wish, seal it and deliver it. Adieu.

LETTER XXXIX.

DEAR MADAM,

Nov. 12th, 1771.

AS it is difficult to learn here whether privilege be in or out in Ireland, I have delayed sending this for some days. My mother, you will see, has wrote to you for money. As it was pre-determined that it should be taken up here, and I have undertaken to transact all those affairs for her, to save her any trouble or vexation that might attend them, you will not, I hope, take it amiss, that I send you only a copy of her letter: the original I keep for my own security and justification, and you must be sensible of the propriety of my doing so, as in case of disputes, my hand-writing will appear against me. I am persuaded too, you will not think it unreasonable, my mother's income being more than she spends, and ours less than answers our occasions, that I should draw for money sufficient to defray the expences of it: and for that purpose, I intend drawing for one pound more than she desires: that is 51l. English, instead of 50l English. If it should be too much, the overplus shall be laid by 'till the next payment, if on the contrary it should be too little, I will advance what is wanting; and will then (the next time) re-imburse myself. One thing more I cannot avoid recommending to your attention: two months ago we paid but one per cent. for money, now it is at seven and a half. To remedy this, I should think there can be no objection to taking up the money a few weeks before my mother wants it, she being so regular as to the sum, &c. With your approbation, therefore, I will

I will for the future lay myself out to take up my mother's money when most to her advantage. I shall take it up in two or three days, and tell my mother that it came by a private hand.

I am, &c. M. W.

LETTER XL.

DEAR S—,

Dublin, Nov. the 30th, 1771.

I Have applied to Mr W— in regard to those leases of Caple-street, without succeeding; he says he never had nor saw one of them, nor is there any such papers among Mrs. S. W—'s. I carefully looked over mine, and those of my sister's, before I wrote to you, both desk and drawers. I beg you will tell Miss W— I think, she should have explained herself, when speaking of Caple-street concern in a letter some short time ago, asked me did I not remember what had been hinted relative to that renewal or concern, and to be well aware or cautious how her mother's money was laid out there, I truly acknowledge, I do not remember, though at the same time I with truth can say, my attentions have been constantly engaged to her business, as well as to others, whom I wished to be serviceable to. My sister has never seemed to doubt either my intending or doing the best I could for her; undoubtedly there is a satisfaction in being able to please; the contrary will not do with me, though open to conviction as any one, if I have done wrong. Mr. W— has not yet settled matters so as to pay the money; he gave me the strongest assurance that the instant he got it, he would come to me with it. I do think patience is somewhat called upon, and hope it will not be much longer exercised; but this is the height of the term, as well as the contest who shall be member for Dublin in the room of poor L—, who is now quiet enough. B. T— paid me one third of ten pounds received out of Stony-batter; fees deducted: your part comes to 3l. 3s. 3d. which I have; it is not part of the arrears due, but one of the tenants which has been brought to pay in the old way. In a long and intentionally a friendly and sincere letter, addressed to my dear S—, having business with her at that time, I did express an anxious solicitude to have the happiness of her and her sister promoted, if possible; however was far from thinking that leaving your mother would answer that purpose. I think it hard that the only paragraph which might be questionable against me, is picked out, and no other taken the least notice of. I did advise you as I should have acted myself in your circumstances, in regard to engaging the first floor, which was then empty; and when you talk of having debts to pay, I must say it conveys that my advise was eligible: but my last letter was too long, and shall run into the same

same error now, if I do not finish, and subscribe myself a constant well-wisher to you and all belonging to you. M. K.

So far has been wrote some days: I kept it hoping for something more satisfactory in regard to Mr. W—; and Mr. P—, who was necessary to the finishing of the bargain, tells me the Dean and Chapter to whom the sale of Skinner-Row is making, meets Friday next, and hopes all will be executed at that time for the payment of the purchase: these things are extremely tedious, where so many are to be consulted it is impossible to avoid it. I received your sister's letter; her taking up my sister's money when cheapest, I cannot object to, provided she gives me reasonable notice to be ready to answer the draft. Dr. — is returned member for Dublin; a trader would be a more natural representative for a trading city than the V—P—; but he always voted with L—; so Alderman — is disappointed. I met J. W—, who again assured me he never saw one of those papers. Pray let me know from your sister what was remarked in regard to Caple-street? Adieu. Best compliments to Mrs. C—. I have just accepted an English bill, 5*l.* *os.* *od.* Compliments to my sister and yours.

LETTER XLI.

DEAR MADAM,

Dec. 9th, 1771.

IN your letter of October 19th, you say, Mr. W— assured you, that every difficulty was over, and another week would enable him to pay us all; desiring us to send you directions how to employ the money. I have waited thus long, in expectation that each post would bring us a more particular account of the payment of that money; but not having received any letter from you, conclude you think it unnecessary to write, and are waiting to know our determination how the money is to be disposed of. In a fortnight then at farthest, I will take up (for the payment of our debts) 50 or 60 pounds of it. The remainder, when we know precisely what it is, we shall be able to judge with greater certainty, in what manner it will be best to dispose of it. I am, &c.

M. W.

LETTER XLII.

DEAR MADAM,

Dec. 12th, 1771.

I Find by your letter of November the 30th, to my sister, that Mr. W— has not paid the money. I have wrote to him, and have left the letter open, that you may see my determination.

I am, &c. M. W.

LETTER XLIII.

DEAR S—,

Dublin, Dec. the 16th, 1771.

I Take the opportunity of dear Mrs. C—'s kind offer to write to my sister; I leave it open, as I would wish you to be acquainted with all transactions in the way of business between her and I. It is not vain flattery when I think I shall be found upright in them all. I complied with Miss M—'s desire to have a pound over what her mother should receive: let her be so good to tell me to whom I am to charge it? If I now drew out her account*, she must be acquainted with the exact sum lent for her. I call it 50l. English; but your sister knows, I make myself accountable for 51l. English, by accepting and paying the draft for that sum. I both wrote and called on Mr. W— last week; he says there cannot, he thinks, be much delay now. I pleaded, that if he even paid the year's interest due last May; but to this had for answer, that all must (he thought) be concluded in few days. Unless they should dissolve parliament out of time, privilege holds all winter here, the session being sitting. Miss M— will say what was hinted in regard to Caple-street concern; if the leases are not to be found, I must endeavour to see the tenants duplicates. Let me hear from you soon? I sincerely wish you all many happy years, with compliments of the season, and am your affectionate, &c.

M. K.

LETTER XLIV.

* She has never given in any accounts to my mother, since she has been intrusted with the management of her affairs.

LETTER XLIV.

Dublin, Dec. the 29th, 1771.

I Will not say I am angry with you my dear M—, having a high opinion and reverence for the precept “*Let not the Sun go down on your Wrath;*” but desiring to be on a friendly and good footing with you, had determined it the best means for accomplishing it, to avoid addressing you by letters; for I must acknowledge, that some of your’s have raised resentments, and I could neither see cause nor right that you had to treat me as you thought proper to do. On looking over again, you say, “if you have said any thing I can take ill, you did not mean offence:” it distresses me to think of having any difference with one whose heart I am sure is sound and good; therefore, though the offended *Person, make* the first advances that all may be forgot, on proviso of some more caution for the future; for when you allow yourself to write with heat and warmth, you must not suppose that I can be quite insensible to it. Just at the time I received your letter for Mr. W—, he had paid the year’s interest due last May on the 200l. therefore supposed you would not chuse it should be sent. Something still retards the finishing the bargain, so as to have the whole money paid. I was also advised that your letter to Mr. W— might hurt you and could not serve. Did you arrest him he would get bail: the nature of your debt being such (there being no bond) and he could if he pleased by quereks of the law, keep you in law these many years, for I presume you are well apprized that he would be highly exasperated at your threats*, when he has been doing all he could:

* To J—— W——, Esq.

S I R,

Dec. 11th, 1771.

THOUGH my letters hitherto have not merited an answer, I address you once more, to inform you, that we have an opportunity of putting out the money of our’s now in your hands, very advantageously, and therefore request, if you have not already paid it in, that you will immediately.

I wrote to you near a year ago for fifty pounds to answer some demands; those demands still remain unanswered; you, perhaps, presuming on the relationship between us, have no apprehensions of being arrested; but I have not the same security; and to be short, if you do not immediately pay the money, there is no alternative; for since one of us must go to goal, I think it every way most suitable it should be you.

I shall take no notice of any messages.

I am, &c.

M—— W——.

could: you should tell me what was observed in regard to the interest in Caple-street. I told S— I did not remember what you alluded to when you said "I must be careful how I laid out your mother's money there, on a renewal." I should certainly have advised you, had I received so large a sum as Mr. W—'s, due to you and S—. Pray recollect and let me know at what time you received the ten pounds from your aunt W—, part of the bond for 50*l.* originally: it will be necessary to know that, to cast up what interest is due on the remaining forty pounds. I have perfected to ———, his mother be joint security a bond for 50*l.* for your mother. I had near the money, so thought I would make it soon up. How her accounts with brother W—d stands, I am not sure; he having raised her 50*l.* English, without my assistance, for some time past; and I know the fund he pays from, does not produce so much, so till I can answer demands, shall not inquire. You may draw on me for the twelve pounds paid to May last, by Mr. W. £ 12 0 0 five pounds to the 14th of Dec. 1771, for which I send a

receipt	-	5 0 0	
Paid out of Stoney-batter			
concern	-	3 3 3	£ 20 3 3

or to avoid confusion between Irish and English money, take up eighteen guineas, which makes twenty pounds nine shillings and six pence Irish money; then you will be in my debt six shillings, three pence. M— sends her love to you and S—. All this family joins us in the compliments of the season. Pray remember us all to my sister. Believe me your sincere friend, M. K.

Compliments to Mrs. ——. Are the ———s, &c. still at Bath? Do you generally keep so late hours as past one o'clock?

L E T T E R XLV.

DEAR MADAM,

Dec. 30th, 1771.

MRS ——— having obligingly offered to send a letter for me, I write, though I have not any thing particular to say. Your letter of the 16th, which we received yesterday, confirms us in the opinion, that what we have determined with regard to Mr. W—, is no more than a necessary step. I cannot see to what purpose I should trouble you or myself, with an explanation about Caple-street, since the leases are not to the fore; when they are found, I am ready to comply with your desire. The one pound is to be charged to my mother: I paid but 10*s.* 6*d.* at the bank; there remains in my hands 9*s.* 6*d.* so that next time I shall draw
for

or in what manner you sent it; for we never received it. I am very sensible you told me, that you had received from Mr. W---d the 4l. 3s. 4d. deficient in Mr. H---'s bill; but I own, I did not know before, that your receiving a sum of money belonging to us, was the same thing as if we had received it ourselves; and that drawing for that money, was to be considered as receiving it twice. On the whole, make it clear that we owe you so much money, and I will readily and chearfully acknowledge the debt, 'till it suits us to discharge it: but unless you do, as I am not conscious of owing you more than I have mentioned, you must excuse my denying the debt.

The comfort of my life is interfered with, by the frequent necessity I am under of writing such long and contentious letters:* yet while my property, or independence, seem in danger, I cannot be passive. Do but consider me as one that is neither a knave nor a fool, and I am ready to ask your pardon, for any thing I have said in the course of our correspondence that may have given you the least displeasure. The truth is, you are provoking, and I high spirited. I hope Mr. W--- is in earnest, and shall expect to hear in a post or two that the money is paid. I do not know whether you remember, what I once told you in regard to Caple-street; it is proper, I think, that that should be inquired into, before my mother's money is laid out on it. I now take leave of business; and hope for the future my letters will be dictated by friendship alone. I am, dear madam, your affectionate niece, M. W.

L E T T E R XXXVIII.

MY DEAR S—,

Dublin, Oct. the 19th, 1771.

MRS. C—, my very good and agreeable friend, gives me another opportunity of addressing you at a cheap rate, and believe me, I have the greatest pleasure in every one that offers; it is the only method at present of having a little chat, or something resembling it, with friends, for which I have the most affectionate regard, and whose happiness commands my warmest wishes. ~~Would it were in my power to make you both as much so as this~~ world

I regret I did not keep copies of all those letters, though I have no question but there were many faults in them, arising from warmth of temper, or ignorance. I can only say, that if Mrs. K— has them, and will be at the trouble of publishing them, she has my free leave.

could : you should tell me what was observed in regard to the interest in Caple-street. I told S— I did not remember what you alluded to when you said " I must be careful how I laid out your mother's money there, on a renewal." I should certainly have advised you, had I received so large a sum as Mr. W—'s, due to you and S—. Pray recollect and let me know at what time you received the ten pounds from your aunt W—, part of the bond for 50*l.* originally : it will be necessary to know that, to cast up what interest is due on the remaining forty pounds. I have perfected to ———, his mother be joint security a bond for 300*l.* for your mother. I had near the money, so thought I would make it soon up. How her accounts with brother W—d stands, I am not sure ; he having raised her 50*l.* English, without my assistance, for some time past ; and I know the fund he pays from, does not produce so much, so till I can answer demands, shall not inquire. You may draw on me for the twelve pounds paid to May last, by Mr. W. £ 12 0 0 five pounds to the 14th of Dec. 1771, for which I send a

receipt	-	5 0 0	
Paid out of Stoney-batter			
concern	-	3 3 3	£ 20 3 3

or to avoid confusion between Irish and English money, take up eighteen guineas, which makes twenty pounds nine shillings and six pence Irish money ; then you will be in my debt six shillings, three pence. M— sends her love to you and S—. All this family joins us in the compliments of the season. Pray remember us all to my sister. Believe me your sincere friend, M. K.

Compliments to Mrs. ——. Are the ———s, &c. still at Bath ? Do you generally keep so late hours as past one o'clock ?

L E T T E R XLV.

DEAR MADAM,

Dec. 30th, 1771.

MRS ——— having obligingly offered to send a letter for me, I write, though I have not any thing particular to say. Your letter of the 16th, which we received yesterday, confirms us in the opinion, that what we have determined with regard to Mr. W—, is no more than a necessary step. I cannot see to what purpose I should trouble you or myself, with an explanation about Caple-street, since the leases are not to the fore ; when they are found, I am ready to comply with your desire. The one pound is to be charged to my mother : I paid but 10*s.* 6*d.* at the bank ; there remains in my hands 9*s.* 6*d.* so that next time I shall draw
for

or in what manner you sent it; for we never received it. I am very sensible you told me, that you had received from Mr. W---d the 4l. 3s. 4d. deficient in Mr. H---'s bill; but I own, I did not know before, that your receiving a sum of money belonging to us, was the same thing as if we had received it ourselves; and that drawing for that money, was to be considered as receiving it twice. On the whole, make it clear that we owe you so much money, and I will readily and chearfully acknowledge the debt, 'till it suits us to discharge it: but unless you do, as I am not conscious of owing you more than I have mentioned, you must excuse my denying the debt.

The comfort of my life is interfered with, by the frequent necessity I am under of writing such long and contentious letters:* yet while my property, or independence, seem in danger, I cannot be passive. Do but consider me as one that is neither a knave nor a fool, and I am ready to ask your pardon, for any thing I have said in the course of our correspondence that may have given you the least displeasure. The truth is, you are provoking, and I high spirited. I hope Mr. W--- is in earnest, and shall expect to hear in a post or two that the money is paid. I do not know whether you remember, what I once told you in regard to Caple-street; it is proper, I think, that that should be inquired into, before my mother's money is laid out on it. I now take leave of business; and hope for the future my letters will be dictated by friendship alone. I am, dear madam, your affectionate niece, M. W.

LETTER XXXVIII.

MY DEAR S—,

Dublin, Oct. the 19th, 1771.

MRS. C—, my very good and agreeable friend, gives me another opportunity of addressing you at a cheap rate, and believe me, I have the greatest pleasure in every one that offers; it is the only method at present of having a little chat, or something resembling it, with friends, for which I have the most affectionate regard, and whose happiness commands my warmest wishes. ~~Would it were in my power to make you both as much so as this~~ world

I regret I did not keep copies of all those letters, though I have no question but there were many faults in them, arising from warmth of temper, or ignorance. I can only say, that if Mrs. K— has them, and will be at the trouble of publishing them, she has my free leave.

world can do. Mrs. ——— thought, and other friends have been of the same opinion, that you did not at all enjoy yourselves, that your manner of living was irksome and uneasy and not to satisfaction. Would to God your mother would think of coming home, and consequently restoring you to a number of dear connections; or if she continues where she is, alter her plan of living, so as to make your's more eligible and comfortable. She can well afford to live more generously, and nothing can plead her excuse, but alas! her distemper. Friends must be anxious when they see worthy creatures like you both not partaking in that share of tranquillity & ease, which is generally the lot of mortals who have good minds, and where health and competence is bestowed. Indeed to have a parent for ever in one's view, disordered as my poor sister is, abstracted from the world and the innocent recreations of it, is undoubtedly a damp, and a great obstruction to that cheerfulness and harmony that otherwise would enliven and sweeten those hours which pass, I fear, heavy and dull enough. What, my dear girls, can be done? Is it possible to procure any person that you think capable of that attention to your mother, in your places, which you have so amply and dutifully given, and to fix yourselves here among us, or in any other place or way within bounds you can compass, which may promote and procure a greater share of that ease and tranquillity, without which our enjoyments must indeed be very few. In one of my letters lately I questioned very close, but have not been yet answered; if there is any thing I can do or say to my sister, only let me know it? I address you dear S—, having a question about business; but let me first add to the other subject, that no arguments have been unessayed to persuade my sister to quit Bath; it was indeed before you went there chiefly, and will renew it again, if you think it will avail; as to the other, can you inform me where the parchments and papers are relative to Caple-street concern? I have searched every cranny of my sister's desk and drawers, and there is not a word nor paper about it, nor any lease whatever; those houses bring in 70l. a year; they are very old; however the standing its thought will make property there always valuable; they pay 12l. 10s. G. rent. Have you any good calculator as to the worth of a renewal, and how many years would be right to ask; for this we have not yet adjusted; but it would be a desirable *addition* to your *fortunes*, whenever that event happens to my sister, which we all sooner or later must meet with. I saw J. W--- this day; he assured me, that every difficulty was over, and he thought another week would enable him to pay you all. God send. I shall then call at his house with more pleasure, though not quite so often. Send me directions how to employ the money. I do hope that the payment will be now accomplished. I met B. T--- a day or two ago, who gives some hopes that

that there may be soon a settlement of the Stoney-batter affairs; of this more as I learn it. Mr. — has a letter for you near three weeks, and Mrs. — poplin; the bad weather, and his mother's fears for one of the best of sons, and indeed throughout uniform, has prevented his setting out; but hope it will take place in a few days. We have had but a dull summer, on account of brother W—d's tedious confinement; his leg became bad again, so as to be in the surgeon's hands again; thank God, he appears to be mending, though slowly. Your cousin M—'s letter informs you of her brother's intended marriage; and I have said so much already, that I fear I have tired you. May God bless you both, and make you as happy as his dispensations will admit, sincerely wishes your affectionate &c. M: K.

Sincere love to M—. Your uncle left us a week ago. If the inclosed is such as you and M. would wish, seal it and deliver it. Adieu.

LETTER XXXIX.

DEAR MADAM,

Nov. 12th, 1771.

AS it is difficult to learn here whether privilege be in or out in Ireland, I have delayed sending this for some days. My mother, you will see, has wrote to you for money. As it was pre-determined that it should be taken up here, and I have undertaken to transact all those affairs for her, to save her any trouble or vexation that might attend them, you will not, I hope, take it amiss, that I send you only a copy of her letter: the original I keep for my own security and justification, and you must be sensible of the propriety of my doing so, as in case of disputes, my hand-writing will appear against me. I am persuaded too, you will not think it unreasonable, my mother's income being more than she spends, and ours less than answers our occasions, that I should draw for money sufficient to defray the expences of it: and for that purpose, I intend drawing for one pound more than she desires: that is 5*l*. English, instead of 50*l* English. If it should be too much, the overplus shall be laid by 'till the next payment, if on the contrary it should be too little, I will advance what is wanting; and will then (the next time) re-imburse myself. One thing more I cannot avoid recommending to your attention: two months ago we paid but one per cent. for money, now it is at seven and a half. To remedy this, I should think there can be no objection to taking up the money a few weeks before my mother wants it, she being so regular as to the sum, &c. With your approbation, therefore,

I will for the future lay myself out to take up my mother's money when most to her advantage. I shall take it up in two or three days, and tell my mother that it came by a private hand!

I am, &c. M. W.

LETTER XL.

DEAR S—,

Dublin, Nov. the 30th, 1771.

I Have applied to Mr W— in regard to those leases of Caple-street, without succeeding; he says he never had nor saw one of them, nor is there any such papers among Mrs. S. W—'s. I carefully looked over mine, and those of my sister's, before I wrote to you, both desk and drawers. I beg you will tell Miss W— I think, she should have explained herself, when speaking of Caple-street concern in a letter some short time ago, asked me did I not remember what had been hinted relative to that renewal or concern, and to be well aware or cautious how her mother's money was laid out there. I truly acknowledge, I do not remember, though at the same time I with truth can say, my attentions have been constantly engaged to her business, as well as to others, whom I wished to be serviceable to. My sister has never seemed to doubt either my intending or doing the best I could for her; undoubtedly there is a satisfaction in being able to please; the contrary will not do with me, though open to conviction as any one, if I have done wrong. Mr. W— has not yet settled matters so as to pay the money; he gave me the strongest assurance that the instant he got it, he would come to me with it. I do think patience is somewhat called upon, and hope it will not be much longer exercised; but this is the height of the term, as well as the contest who shall be member for Dublin in the room of poor L—, who is now quiet enough. B. T— paid me one third of ten pounds received out of Stony-batter; fees deducted: your part comes to 3l. 3s. 3d. which I have; it is not part of the arrears due, but one of the tenants which has been brought to pay in the old way. In a long and intentionally a friendly and sincere letter, addressed to my dear S—, having business with her at that time, I did express an anxious solicitude to have the happiness of her and her sister promoted, if possible; however was far from thinking that leaving your mother would answer that purpose. I think it hard that the only paragraph which might be questionable against me, is picked out, and no other taken the least notice of. I did advise you as I should have acted myself in your circumstances, in regard to engaging the first floor, which was then empty; and when you talk of having debts to pay, I must say it conveys that my advise was eligible; but my last letter was too long, and shall run into the
same

same error now, if I do not finish, and subscribe myself a constant well-wisher to you and all belonging to you. M. K.

So far has been wrote some days: I kept it hoping for something more satisfactory in regard to Mr. W—; and Mr. P—, who was necessary to the finishing of the bargain, tells me the Dean and Chapter to whom the sale of Skinner-Row is making, meets Friday next, and hopes all will be executed at that time for the payment of the purchase: these things are extremely tedious, where so many are to be consulted it is impossible to avoid it. I received your sister's letter; her taking up my sister's money when cheapest, I cannot object to, provided she gives me reasonable notice to be ready to answer the draft. Dr. — is returned member for Dublin; a trader would be a more natural representative for a trading city than the V—P—; but he always voted with L—; so Alderman — is disappointed. I met J. W—, who again assured me he never saw one of those papers. Pray let me know from your sister what was remarked in regard to Caple-street? Adieu. Best compliments to Mrs. C—. I have just accepted an English bill, 51l. os. od. Compliments to my sister and yours.

LETTER XL.

DEAR MADAM,

Dec. 9th, 1771.

IN your letter of October 19th, you say, Mr. W— assured you, that every difficulty was over, and another week would enable him to pay us all; desiring us to send you directions how to employ the money. I have waited thus long, in expectation that each post would bring us a more particular account of the payment of that money; but not having received any letter from you, conclude you think it unnecessary to write, and are waiting to know our determination how the money is to be disposed of. In a fortnight then at farthest, I will take up (for the payment of our debts) 50 or 60 pounds of it. The remainder, when we know precisely what it is, we shall be able to judge with greater certainty, in what manner it will be best to dispose of it. I am, &c.

M. W.

LETTER XLII.

DEAR MADAM,

Dec. 12th, 1771.

I Find by your letter of November the 30th, to my sister, that Mr W— has not paid the money. I have wrote to him, and have left the letter open, that you may see my determination.

I am, &c. M. W.

LETTER XLIII.

DEAR S—,

Dublin, Dec. the 16th, 1771.

I Take the opportunity of dear Mrs. C—'s kind offer to write to my sister; I leave it open, as I would wish you to be acquainted with all transactions in the way of business between her and I. It is not vain flattery when I think I shall be found upright in them all. I complied with Miss M—'s desire to have a pound over what her mother should receive: let her be so good to tell me to whom I am to charge it? If I now drew out her account*, she must be acquainted with the exact sum lent for her. I call it 50l. English; but your sister knows, I make myself accountable for 51l. English, by accepting and paying the draft for that sum. I both wrote and called on Mr. W— last week; he says there cannot, he thinks, be much delay now. I pleaded, that if he even paid the year's interest due last May; but to this had for answer, that all must (he thought) be concluded in few days. Unless they should dissolve parliament out of time, privilege holds all winter here, the session being sitting. Miss M— will say what was hinted in regard to Caple-street concern; if the leases are not to be found, I must endeavour to see the tenants duplicates. Let me hear from you soon? I sincerely wish you all many happy years, with compliments of the season, and am your affectionate, &c.

M. K.

LETTER XLIV.

* She has never given in any accounts to my mother, since she has been intrusted with the management of her affairs.

L E T T E R XLIV.

Dublin, Dec. the 29th, 1771.

I Will not say I am angry with you my dear M—, having a high opinion and reverence for the precept “*Let not the Sun go down on your Wrath;*” but desiring to be on a friendly and good footing with you, had determined it the best means for accomplishing it, to avoid addressing you by letters; for I must acknowledge, that some of your’s have raised resentments, and I could neither see cause nor right that you had to treat me as you thought proper to do. On looking over again, you say, “if you have said any thing I can take ill, you did not mean offence:” it distresses me to think of having any difference with one whose heart I am sure is sound and good; therefore, though the offended *Person, make* the first advances that all may be forgot, on proviso of some more caution for the future; for when you allow yourself to write with heat and warmth, you must not suppose that I can be quite insensible to it. Just at the time I received your letter for Mr. W—, he had paid the year’s interest due last May on the 200l. therefore supposed you would not chuse it should be sent. Something still retards the finishing the bargain, so as to have the whole money paid. I was also advised that your letter to Mr. W— might hurt you and could not serve. Did you arrest him he would get bail: the nature of your debt being such (there being no bond) and he could if he pleased by querks of the law, keep you in law these many years, for I presume you are well apprized that he would be highly exasperated at your threats*, when he has been doing all he could:

* To J—— W——, Esq.

S I R,

Dec. 11th, 1771.

THOUGH my letters hitherto have not merited an answer, I address you once more, to inform you, that we have an opportunity of putting out the money of our’s now in your hands, very advantageously, and therefore request, if you have not already paid it in, that you will immediately.

I wrote to you near a year ago for fifty pounds to answer some demands; those demands still remain unanswered; you, perhaps, presuming on the relationship between us, have no apprehensions of being arrested; but I have not the same security; and to be short, if you do not immediately pay the money, there is no alternative; for since one of us must go to goal, I think it every way most suitable it should be you.

I shall take no notice of any messages.

I am, &c.

M—— W——.

could: you should tell me what was observed in regard to the interest in Caple-street. I told S— I did not remember what you alluded to when you said "I must be careful how I laid out your mother's money there, on a renewal." I should certainly have advised you, had I received so large a sum as Mr. W—'s, due to you and S—. Pray recollect and let me know at what time you received the ten pounds from your aunt W—, part of the bond for 50*l.* originally: it will be necessary to know that, to cast up what interest is due on the remaining forty pounds. I have perfected to ———, his mother be joint security a bond for 50*l.* for your mother. I had near the money, so thought I would make it soon up. How her accounts with brother W—d stands, I am not sure; he having raised her 50*l.* English, without my assistance, for some time past; and I know the fund he pays from, does not produce so much, so till I can answer demands, shall not inquire. You may draw on me for the twelve pounds paid to May last, by Mr. W. £ 12 0 0 five pounds to the 14th of Dec. 1771, for which I send a

receipt	-	5 0 0	
Paid out of Stoney-batter			
concern	-	3 3 3	£ 20 3 3

or to avoid confusion between Irish and English money, take up eighteen guineas, which makes twenty pounds nine shillings and six pence Irish money; then you will be in my debt six shillings three pence. M— sends her love to you and S—. All this family joins us in the compliments of the season. Pray remember us all to my sister. Believe me your sincere friend, M. K.

Compliments to Mrs. ——. Are the ———s, &c. still at Bath? Do you generally keep so late hours as past one o'clock?

L E T T E R XLV.

DEAR MADAM,

Dec. 30th, 1771.

MRS ——— having obligingly offered to send a letter for me, I write, though I have not any thing particular to say. Your letter of the 16th, which we received yesterday, confirms us in the opinion, that what we have determined with regard to Mr. W—, is no more than a necessary step. I cannot see to what purpose I should trouble you or myself, with an explanation about Caple-street, since the leases are not to the fore; when they are found, I am ready to comply with your desire. The one pound is to be charged to my mother: I paid but 10*s.* 6*d.* at the bank; there remains in my hands 9*s.* 6*d.* so that next time I shall draw

for

for only the 50l. English. But if my uncle W—d comes here in spring, he will probably bring it with him. I am very sorry his leg is worse. I am, &c. M. W.

L E T T E R XLVI.

MY dear Mrs. — affording me an opportunity, I write, though with a heavy heart; this sad leg of my dear brother W—d's has at last deprived us of him; the general affliction is easier supposed than expressed. My poor sister has sustained such a loss, as nothing but the goodness of Divine Providence could support her under; and poor M—, who did so much admire and was so sensible of his worth; indeed all of them are amazingly collected, and shew themselves good christians, and worthy of the alliance to the dear friend who is gone a little before, and undoubtedly to happiness, after supporting an amiable and worthy character throughout life, and also a most tedious and painful confinement with the greatest fortitude, patience and sweetness of temper that could be imagined: he died yesterday; his constitution was not equal to bear up longer. Give a guinea in such a way as may be most useful to Mrs. —, and I will send it the next time you get money; add it to the draft when you draw; I am sure she is worthy, and I am sorry for her bad health.

Make my love to my sister acceptable. I hope you are all well, and will have pleasure in hearing it. My love and that of this afflicted family to you and S—. I am sincerely your well-wisher, &c. M. K.

Jan. the 12th, 1772.

L E T T E R XLVII.

DEAR MADAM,

Jan. 13th, 1772.

MRS. C— having again offered her assistance in conveying a letter to you, I embrace this opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of your's of December 29th, though a feverish attack which has left me weak and languid, will not permit my answering it as fully as I would otherwise have done. I do not dispute your being advised to act as you did in regard to my letter, nor take upon me to judge of the advice; but as soon as I am able, will inform myself about it. Though I could give up the thoughts of placing the money where I proposed, safely and commodiously for us, I cannot give up the paying of our debts, which have

H

long

long lain a heavy burthen on my mind ; and should I be arrested, situated as I am among strangers, who can I expect will be bail for me? therefore, if I am not to have the money we have so just a claim to, from Mr. W—, I must apply to my uncle for that he has of mine. I can easily find out when I had the money of my aunt W—, but cannot just now recollect it. We have taken up the twelve pounds, the five pounds we are accountable to my mother for, and the 3l. 3s. 3d. out of Stoney-batter; you desired us to take 20l. 3s. 3d. Irish, 18l. 12s. 2½d. English. I am, &c.

M. W.

LETTER XLVIII.

Dublin, March the 18th, 1772.

IF I had any thing satisfactory to inform my dear girls of, my writing should not have been delayed by any consideration, much less that of waiting for a frank, which has indeed been the cause of delay for near a fortnight, your friend Mrs. — having promised this letter should accompany one of her's, which she has expected a convoy for, so long a time as I mention.

This purchase or rather sale of Mr. W—'s has not yet taken place; there have been delays of various kinds, which he declares are unavoidable. I wrote him last Friday, that you were much distressed for your money, that you wrote to me in the most pressing manner, that you could not do without it, at least part immediately, and that if he paid off the bond and interest due upon it, you would be better satisfied to give him some more time for paying the 200l. He answers me "I have waited longer than I ought to answer your note of Friday, it was in hopes of giving you the best answer, by fixing a day for the payment of the money; but the illness of the person with whom I am in treaty has prevented it; you may rest assured I am doing all I can to conclude matters; more I cannot do; in a week you shall hear further from, &c." In short, weeks have been heretofore so protracted, that I will send this away. You mention the money in your uncle's hands. I am sure you will find no difficulty if you determine so*. I have Mr. — half year to August last in my hands, - - - 6 11 8 and Mr. — half year to Nov. last the 18th - - - 3 0 0. I hope
you

* See Mrs. K——'s letter 31st July, 1775.

you are very well all of you: Thank God this family are as much so as their heavy loss will allow. My sister desires her love to your mother, and doubts not her good wishes for her, and is much obliged to you all. Poor Mrs. — is a fellow-sufferer; she supported through the poor Captain's illness and since his death, like a christian, like herself, doing the greatest honour to the religion she professes, by an humble resignation in time of trial. How happy when those who keenly feels misfortune, can rise above it. Let me know, if you can, to what time you received the ten pounds, part of the bond? it will enable us to know what interest is due. Don't S— recollect any thing of those leases of Caple-street? what was done with them? Should there be no renewal, it will be a great lessening to my sister's income 9 years hence, whoever lives to see it: pray how is she? does the going to the Pump Room still take place? The government have been sending the army there some days past, in hopes of quelling a most tumultuous parcel of people in the North, who rise by thousands, oblige dealers to sell at their prices, quarrel at paying tythes, and particularly at the vast price land is risen to; in short, they take the laws in their own hands, and have committed dreadful outrages. God grant a speedy stop may be put to it, for it is really frightful. Best compliments to Mrs. —. Mrs. — came to town yesterday, is pretty well. I just have sent M— sends her love, will write the first opportunity. Believe me sincerely your friend, &c.

M. K.

LETTER XLIX.

DEAR MADAM,

March 18th, 1772.

WE are very much surprized and concered, that we have not received a line from Ireland these two months; but tho' we should have been gratified by hearing from you, hope we have no reason to be uneasy. I write to inform you, that we shall in a few days take up the twelve pounds due to us from my uncle March the 12th, the half year's rent due from Mr. — last August, which I presume is paid, and the guinea you gave to Mrs. —, for which she long since desired me, to present her humble respects and a thousand thanks to you; but I thought it unnecessary to write on purpose. These three sums make 19l. 14s. 5d. Irish, 18l. 4s. 0½d. English. Should exchange answer, I will at the same time take up 50l. English, for my mother.

I am, &c. M. W.

LETTER L.

DEAR M---,

Dublin, March the 28th, 1772.

I Received your's of the 18th instant, and though I feared you would be surprized and concerned at not hearing from us, I found myself sorry, which certainly proceeded from having been led to give you occasion, from too long silence, and *would* this present *writing* were *satisfactory*. I mentioned to you in my last, from Mr. W— a week, he did come, but still cannot yet pay more than the interest, declares he is doing every thing that man can do, and that a very short time must finish the whole business; he paid six pounds, which is half a year's interest to Nov. the 14th, 1771, and I hope you have not yet taken up the 12l. and 6l. 11s. 8d. and Mrs. — 1l. 2s. 9d. till you add to it the 3l. os. od. of Mr. —, which I mentioned in my last, and this 6l. os. od. of Mr. W—'s. You say you will take up my sister's fifty pounds, which she draws for half yearly; you will find it is but four months the 27th instant, since her acknowledgment for the last. I wish I had the benefit of a frank for you. Since my good Mrs. —'s trouble, she has not offered, and I was loath to tease her. Mrs. — brought a severe cold to town with her, and is very uneasy on account of her husband, from these tumults about the country. I hope please God all will subside soon. She has a lovely boy, (bless the child) as I have often seen. Poor cousin B. W—d was yesterday released from an extreme infirm and suffering state, to I am certain, a most happy one; she was a most worthy well-minded creature, and has long laboured under great weakness. Mrs. — is, we hear, delivered of a son and heir, so he is the young Englishman. I shall write my sister a note; be so good to seal it up; I hope she is well, and that you both are so. I wish my exhorting you not to fret about Mr. W—, would have the effect. I am sure were you here, you could do no more. I have above 3000l. that I can no more get at nor interest either as I ought. Law is so formidable, I shrink at the thought. Hard on us both it must be allowed; yet how to help it I know not. Do you see Mrs. — often? Mrs. — is better of her cold, but don't mention it to her. My compliments, love to S---, M--- joins me in best wishes. Your's, &c. M. K.

LETTER LI.

LETTER LI.

MY DEAR GIRLS,

Dublin, April the 9th, 1772.

SORRY I am to write without being able to give you any satisfactory account of Mr. W--- having yet come to any settlement: he is now gone the circuit. I could have wished my last letter had arrived time enough to have taken the interest he paid, along with your other money; he declared the last time I saw him, that nothing should be neglected that could further the sale, so as to be clear with every body. By my brother's letter I find you tell him from me, that as you have not a bond, you cannot proceed against J. W---. You mistook me, the process, like every law affair, would be slow, I said, which I judged from the length of time my brother was endeavouring to recover his right from Mr. —, and without success. If pressing letters, couched in civil terms, would do, I presume you would rather they should. Your objections which you mention'd on another occasion, of not liking to lend money to carry on a law-suit against one part of your family, I dare say would hold good here. Write the most pressing letter you can, and sign it both of you, or in what way you please, it shall be given. I think we shall both like fair means best. Thank God my sister and family are tolerable well. Did I ever tell you the disposition of my poor brother's affairs? My sister has 3000l. a year, the house during her life, plate, china, furniture, coach, and a pair of horses, and 2000l. to give their children in what proportions she thinks fit; — has 1200l. (— the same), all the other girls 1000l. —, having spent beyond his fortune, 25l. a year, to — an interest about 70l. a year and likely to be better in a little time: if my sister out-lives Doctor —'s widow, she is to enjoy, during life, half of that income. and — is sole executor and residuary legatee. I cannot tell what it is, but with I hope a prosperous business, what is handsome; here is a great trust and confidence placed. If my cousin — wanted any spur, I am persuaded it would answer that purpose. My sister gives up this house to him immediately, being so much more commodious for carrying on his business, and he has taken one in Stafford's-street for her. My love to my sister. Tell S--- she mistakes when she thinks her aunt W--- gave me those leases; but not to be too much concerned, for if you think the renewal eligible, it may take place as well without them; so tell me what your opinion is in regard to it, or what the renewal might be worth. I have accepted your draft. M--- joins me in love to you both, who is your sincere friend, &c.

M. K.

Best compliments to Mrs. —.

LETTER LII.

L E T T E R LII.

DEAR MADAM,

April 27th, 1772.

I Took up last Friday 50l. English, of my mother's money, for her use, at the bank, and would have wrote that day, but that it was not in my power. I paid 19s for it; 9s. 6d. I had of her money since the time before, and 3s. 6d. which is due to me. I can be at no loss to determine whether 70l. a year profit rent, be worthy our consideration or not; but how many years purchase it is expedient to give for the renewal, is a question; that you must know as well as I, it is impossible for me to answer at this distance. I presume therefore you mean that I should go to Ireland; and as I am thoroughly convinced it is absolutely necessary that I should, I am glad our sentiments agree; I have accordingly inquired about my passage, &c. and hope to see you in a few days, perhaps before this reaches you. I am very much surprized, that my cousin M--- did not tell me of Mr. ———'s friendly offer, but should suffer me to appear ungrateful through her remissness: I never found her interest herself much in my concerns, but could not have supposed she would deprive me of friends that were inclined to do so.

I am, &c.

M. W.

L E T T E R LIII.

DEAR M—,

WITH concern I tell you there has been no tidings of Mr. W——. I send to know his determination, which the bearer if he hears, will tell you. Pray let me know how your cold is? and if I can be of any service to you by staying in town, I will, and let my friends go without me. We waited in hopes to take you with us. Nothing will be done in the holidays. I propose, if you don't come to us, to come to town after them.

Your's sincerely,

M. K.

L E T T E R LIV.

DEAR M—, I was ready at eight this morning to set out to meet you, in hopes of fetching you back with me, and perhaps caught Mr. W— ready to pay; he talked to cousin N— the day we waited for him in Jervais-street, that he would pay 150l. could

could do no more at present. I wish that was paid on account. I hope the weather will permit you to come with D---. We send a rugg cloak. Hope your cold is pretty well. Your's sincerely.

June the 6th, 1772, at nine.

M. K.

I took heart, and have got to town dry and well. I hope you will come back with us. I send you a note to Mr. W—; please to put this weaser in it. If you have a bundle, give it to William, and take a snack dinner with D--- and I, and I hope we shall be lucky in having the weather favourable.

LETTER LV.

DEAR M—,

I Came to town this day, thinking it may be right to come to some determination about Caple-street affairs. I shall be here if you can come over to a very dirty and not fragrant house. I send you the inclosed, my aunt T--- sent to me. I have no money of your's in my hands; that we shall also consider. I bring sister W---d's compliments, and if you will return with me this evening, she purposes coming to town some time this week, and if your business requires it, will fetch you to town again with herself. William will fetch any bundle you have. Believe sincerely

July the 6th, 1772.

Your's, &c. M. K.

LETTER LVI.

DEAR M---, I was near ready to set off for town this morning, but I cannot have a horse; it was to see you, and know what the message is which D--- brought, about taking money of your mother's at 6 per cent; if you mean the small sum wanted for your and S---'s part of Stoney-batter concern, I told you when I saw you last, that you might have it, if you find it eligible to renew, which I know nothing against, but what you heard me hint at to Mr. T--- and B---, when we met at Crampton-Court. Cousin N. W---d will let you have this money on my account, if you shew him this; it is under twenty pounds. Let me know if my brother is to be wrote to, about perfecting the title to you and S--- of Stoney-batter? I hope to be able to see you Monday. Might you not as well have staid with us? I hope you got home as well as the dust would let you. I wish you had wrote by D---. What you wanted it would have been surer. Have you heard from Bath? I hope all are well.

Sincerely, &c.

July the 18th, 1772.

M. K.

LETTER LVII.

LETTER LVII.

MY DEAR S---

Dublin Aug. the 1772.

I Congratulate you on your sister's return. I shall long to hear of her safe arrival and your happy meeting. I hope she will bring her good looks with her to you; for notwithstanding her situation I think could not be very indulging, yet her health seems to all of us much better than when we saw her last: it has been a downright vexation to us not to have seen more of her. M--- thinking it not right to stay in the country with us, it removing her out of the way of business, and our habitations being quite unsettled and in dirt, prevented our staying in town; so we have seen but little of her. I wish she had been more successful in accomplishing what she came upon. However, it will, I dare say, be productive of one good consequence (I mean her coming to Ireland) that she will be convinced that it has not been through her friends neglect that business was not accomplished to her and your minds long ago. I think I should have been able to have coaxed out of Mr. W--- as much money as she has got, which is but seventy odd pounds, and not a final settlement, which you both seemed to think I might have done, had there been the exertion there ought to be: it is very teasing to be kept out of one's own, that I know by disagreeable experience; yet hard it is to help it. But don't let M--- nor don't yourself easily believe, that a friend can neglect what is in their power to do. I excuse you for not writing when your sister came; the parting must have been too painful to let you think of that. M--- takes three yards a quarter of muslin, a pair of ruffles and cap each, and the quarter to widen the ruffles if necessary; they make treble of such here; scollop them and edge them with coxcomb; it is a small remembrance; but my house has drained me of my money, and far from finished; the furniture is but ill supplied yet. It is something like chatting to a friend to sit down and scribble to them; and believe me that I am very sincerely and affectionately your's, &c.

M. K.

When I get your chairs and cabinet from Mr. W---, I will let you know, and thank you in the mean time for your letting me have the loan of them, and be well assured of their being taken care of.

LETTER LVIII.

LETTER LVIII.

DEAR M—,

Dublin, Sept. the 23d, 1772.

GIVE an account of yourself. Left this the 13th, did not get home till the 28th! I lay this tax on you for not telling me a word about your journey, whether you met company, or whether agreeable. We were not a little anxious on these accounts, and hoped to have been satisfied in them much sooner than the arrival of your's and dear S—'s letters. It is aukard to write without being able to tell you that matters which you are so urgent about are at all settled. I wrote Miss T—, begging leave to wait on her; she answered, that she had informed you it was to Mr. S— application was to be made on Caple-street business, and that she was going out of town. I went then to the country to D. T—, who desired me to write, "that sister W--- was satisfied to give up her present lease, to have one for such time as might be settled, and at such advanced rent or fine as should be found reasonable, desiring to know the time she could give." S--- called, he kept off much, said "the houses were much neglected, but still we were to offer our terms." I did, in writing thirty pounds a year, or 200l. fine; from this time, it is a week or ten days ago, and have not had an answer. Should this offer be rejected, as I suppose it will, we are at liberty to bid higher. You say it ought to have been done some years ago. Miss T--- is but at age two years; and you may recollect I have mentioned the affair to you more than once. I know of no intentional neglect. Mr. W--- is expected from circuit soon. You did not tell me how you settled with him. So I suppose you will negotiate there yourself. If you think your presence necessary here now, it is a pity you did not stay when your were at this side the herring-brook, and Miss T— just arrived. You did not tell me you saw her.* On your hint in regard to Mr. —, I wrote to his agent, telling him the money was wanted, and to have it paid by Christmas; he and his family are gone to England; and the superb house which has cost so much money, is to be set or sold: it is said they are gone on account of her health. I hope you found my sister and S--- very well; my love to them: how is Miss —? I hope to
I hear

* I did not see my aunt after I had been with Miss T—, but left a letter I received from that lady the morning I left Dublin, with Mr. D— W—d, to give to her.

hear she gets benefit by those good waters, and that her valuable companion is well and happy in the prospect of having their journey made successful; it can't be so more than we wish it, says this family. pray tell them so with our best compliments. Mrs. ---- left this a fortnight ago. How many of my good friends are dispersed within a short time. I have waited to have had a more satisfactory account to give you, or at least a more determinate one, for some days; but knowing those at a distance thinks business can be expedited faster than those on the spot find possible, I will e'en make you my visit with the little or nothing which I have. M--- joins in love and good-wishes. Believe me, dear girls, your sincerely affectionate, &c. M. K.

LETTER LIX.

MY dear girls, I take this opportunity, having room, to ask you how you do, and tell you I received your's of the 7th. Pray our compliments to Miss ---- and ----, and let us know particularly how the latter does? Remember us to Mrs. ----, though I regret much that I was not on the list she gave to her son. I suppose we shan't see him. I hear he is very accomplished: impatient at not hearing from Mr. S---, I call'd on the lady, she came to me, said she must consult friends, and could not how long she should be obliged to take before determining "she did not want money." I urged the concern going to wreck; though she appeared unacquainted with the affairs before this, she believed if there was nothing on the premises it would be worth more; however it might be half a year, perhaps a whole one, before it suited her friends convenience to say what she ought to do, and twice desired to be sure to let the lady know who had wrote to her. Poor D. T--- had a fall from his horse, of which he is very lame still; he thinks there should not be too much urging or anxiousness. Compliments to the ----: is there any sign of a young one yet? Mrs. ---- is to be at Bath at Christmas. I almost envy you. Compliments to Mrs. ----. For goodness sake take care of yourselves; be as happy as you can, and don't take too long walks: is Mrs. ---- possessor of all the poor Colonel's effects? and does she remain in the same place? God bless you all, sincerely wishes your affectionate, &c. M. K.

M--- joins in love.

October the 26th.

J. W. has not paid your cousin N--- yet.

LETTER LX.

LETTER LX.

MY dear M—, what is become of you all? or did you ever mean to put pen to paper again to me? what has my sister done for money? I expected all last month to have had your direction, or rather my sister's, for cash, and now I can think of nothing but that your telling me you liked better to have the money paid here and remitted to you, but was sure you would advise when it was to be sent. I now inclose S—— and D—— D—— bill, on Mr. D—— K——, and Com. London, and hope you will receive it in due time, and good fortune attend it and you. We have paid on my sister's account, Irish money for this 50l. English, 54l. 6s. 3d. exchange being at $8\frac{1}{8}$. I shall long to hear you get it safe, as I have a great while past to hear from you all. My sister received my letter about six weeks ago, and I hope she gave you one side of it, wrote to you. I thought I might save you postage, not having matter to fill my paper otherwise. I there told you Miss T--- had been with me, said she did not want money but would consult friends, that it perhaps might be half a year, perhaps a year before she might determine, as she could not hurry them, but must wait their time: there is a year and half G. rent due. I have been expecting S--- to call for it, and then shall endeavour to get something out of him, and try to know their sentiments. I was asking D. T--- had I better go to him; he thinks it is better wait till he calls, as too much appearance of anxiety may hurt the cause. Surely my sister could not but have given you the side for you. I requested her to do so. Mr. W--- had not yet paid your cousin E——. Do you still desire to have money of your mother's, as you mentioned when here? if fifty pounds can be raised, would you have the sum due to your cousin paid out of it? but take notice; I don't advise your borrowing, if you can possibly help it; it's an uncomfortable fathomless pit, always growing deeper; 'ont you to get this bill accepted. I don't know the method, but would have you inquire of those who do. Pray let me hear from you immediately? and I heartily wish to be satisfied you are all well. Compliments to Miss—— and ——; hope the latter is receiving benefit by Bath waters, How is poor Mrs. ——? one's heart bleeds for her; would I could alleviate her sufferings; I hope —— will be a comfort to her, and that she is supported by all gracious Providence under the severe trials she has had: Pray my best regards to her. M— joins me in love to sister, and yourselves, and believe me to be with utmost sincerity your affectionate &c. M. K.

Dublin, Dec. the 19th, 1772.

LETTER LXI

LETTER LXI.

Dublin, Dec. the 26th, 1772.

I Wrote the 19th instant to my dear M—, inclosing a bill of D—, &c. D— on K— and Co. London, which I hope came safe to hand, 54l. 6s. 3d. Irish: indeed I have been very uneasy at not hearing from you so long, and when my sister used constantly to draw last month for money. You will tear off the other half sheet and inclose it and direct it in a disguised hand to my sister; the letter of attorney as worded, I am informed is necessary, and the business must lie till it comes. I think there will not nor cannot be any objection, as we all would wish to have all parties safe in the business transacted with us. You will observe, that I must be impowered to act in full for her, in putting out as well as calling in her money, and also to insert her consent to, and approbation of, what I have done heretofore since I have transacted her business for her; thank God there is no loss nor disappointment that I know of, and I can give up her affairs to any other at an hour's warning; if what is here proposed can be thought unnecessary, I mention, not waiting for the large as it may be expensive, and a private hand may offer in a short time; you must charge me for this and your last with the bill, being my sister's business. M— joins me in wishing you both a happy year and many of them. Could I write to you without the postage, I would often. God bless you all, prays your affectionate and sincere friend,

M. K.

J. W. has done nothing yet: you observe I tell my sister that inserting what I have wrote with her seal and signing it, and you and S— witnessing it, will answer. You will have Mrs. C— soon. Pray our love to her.

LETTER LXII.

DEAR MADAM,

Jan. 1st, 1773.

I Received your favour of December 19th, with Messrs. D—'s upon Mr. K— and Company; the latter I gave to my mother; as soon as she receives the money for it, she will send a proper acknowledgement: in the mean time, I write to prevent your having any anxiety about it; as I see by the date of your letter, it was a good while coming. I received your former letter from my mother, but did not think it required an answer; and as
I had

I had nothing to write that you would have thought worth reading, I waited in hopes that something might present itself a little more amusing.

You tell me that Mr. W— has not yet paid my cousin W—d the money I received for my draft upon the former, accepted by him before I left Dublin, and which he promised positively to discharge before he went to the country. Mr. W—, no doubt, has used me very ill; but as every body I have to do with, takes liberties, which I presume they would not venture to take with any body else, I am the less surprized at his behaviour. I am to take it for granted, that Mr. W—d offered the draft for payment when it became due, and did all the requisites on his part, towards getting the money; had he himself informed me that he had done so, to no purpose, that he wanted the money, or chose to have it, I should have looked upon myself as indebted to his friendship; at present, I can only beg of you to assure him, that I never felt greater repugnance at any thing in my whole life, than at being obliged to apply to him for that money, and that I do not want to be spurr'd to pay it. As to the 50l. of my mother's that I solicited for almost six months ago, and that is still to be raised; as it may be six or twelve months more before it is raised, I can say nothing about it.

I am, &c.

M. W.

LETTER LXIII.

DEAR MADAM,

Jan. 3d, 1773.

I Have only time to write a few lines, to inform you, that I this morning received your letter of Dec. the 26th. I doubt not but my mother would be as much surprized as I am, at the contents, after your having had the management of her affairs for so many years.* If upon mature consideration I find it eligible, I will deliver my mother's part to her; but if I think it likely to interfere with her happiness, (her disorder and unacquaintedness with business, making her think more of such things than other people) you must excuse me; I will not be accessary to hurting my mother; her health or peace of mind, being of infinitely more consequence than the putting out of 300l. I will write to Mr. W— about the draft; in the mean time Mr. W—d need not be under any apprehensions; his money is very secure, if it were a larger sum.

I am, &c.

M. W.

LETTER LXIV.

* Since the year 1759.

LETTER LXIV.

DEAR M---,

Dublin, Feb. the 20th, 1773.

I Cannot express my surprize at your cavilling and making objections to my desiring to have a proper letter of attorney to transact your mother's business in the most regular proper manner, most to her advantage and safety, as well as to my own. I did not expect that my desire for such powers as I have again wrote to my sister for, could have alarmed any one, even those who might suppose me a bad designing woman not to be trusted. I think you can easily assist your mother in giving such materials as may be satisfactory to her, and exonerate and make me safe in transacting her business; as I said before, I say again, if I am not to have a proper authority, I shall decline any further acting, and shall give up the trust to whom she chuses to appoint. I have Mr. —'s half year and the five pounds due last December. Exchange is very high, so let me know what method to take. I asked your cousin N—; he says the price is very equal, whether sent from this or taken up there. If he had wrote a particular letter to you on account of J. W—'s money, you might well have thought it stiff and unfriendly. M— sends her love to you both; accept mine, and believe me to be sincerely your affectionate, &c.

M. K.

LETTER LXV.

DEAR MADAM,

March 8th, 1773.

I Received your letter. Before I deliver that intended for my —, you must give me leave to ask, were your men of business apprized of her situation? As I apprehend the grievous malady she has long been afflicted with, renders things of that kind of no great consequence, for as the law could not touch her, were she to be guilty of any transgression, neither could she execute any instrument that would not be liable to be disputed or set aside. Whether I am right, or wrong, as these are my sentiments, I could only be alarmed for her; for should we, by awakening her fears, make her unhappy, which of us have the power of restoring her to peace? The best way of accommodating matters, that occurs to me, (since you think we are not to be trusted) is to place the money in the funds; there the principal will be secure, though the interest low; but as my M— does not now spend above two-thirds of her income, it cannot effect her much when it is likely to do so. She may draw it out.

I am, &c.

M. W.

LETTER LXVI.

LETTER LXVI.

MY DEAR S---

Dublin, March the 27th, 1773.

THERE is no question you can ask, or any information I can give you, that your obliging manner of asking does not demand from me (though my inclination did not lead me to do the kind thing to you all); to answer your question more effectually, I got your cousin N— to examine my brother K—'s account-book, where were entered all money paid my sister, Miss M—, and you; the full interest was paid to your mother, from the day of my father's death, of her own legacy and of your's till the time you mention; then, and after, the full interest of your own is paid to yourself; so you see it was your mother's act entirely, as I never had or received a farthing of your's till the death of your aunt W—. N. W. was my brother K's receiver and manager, and it never came through my hands at all. I believe my sister's consent must be obtained for the making up to you the deficiency of the interest. My brother might have with-held it till you were at age (I am told); but that he did not do, as this abstract* from my brother W---d's books shews you, which I inclose; do not think apologizing is necessary, no trouble I can take shall *I think too much* for the satisfying your mind or any belonging to you: when I am treated with that respect which the relation between us demands, not to mention affection or any other motive. Indeed my dear the way to keep friends is never to be rough with them, when it can be avoided, and to confide in them as friends; on this footing, were we most cordially when you were in Dublin, and may it ever be so with us all. I hope Mr. —'s medicines have been useful to M—, if not, when she has given them sufficient trial, Mrs. —'s advice seems much to the purpose; the Doctor may give a better guess how to remove the cause of those troublesome attacks.

How is my sister? is her disorder worse than it was? I hoped it had rather abated; yet by M---'s of the 8th instant, I
should

* 1763. 6th Jan. Mrs. W— paid half year of 900l. due the 12th Sept. 1762: 27l. then these payments ceased, and Mrs. W—'s yearly payments were 30l. per annum, the interest of 500l. and Miss W—'s received their own interest. The first payment made Miss S— W—, dated the 7th of April 1763, for half a year's interest due the 12th of March 1763.

N. B. Alderman K— died in February, 1757.

should fear she was worse, from her being so apprehensive of her signing a new letter of attorney, where the one I have is insufficient, for transacting business with equal propriety, and where I have laboured and taken all possible care in the discharge of business without fee or reward*; and it appears but reasonable that I should have such powers as other people have on similar occasions; however, give my love to your sister; I think her caution cannot be too much in avoiding carefully what might distress her mother; her ease of mind being of the utmost moment; yet can I not agree with her, in regard to my sister being unqualified to execute whatever she may think proper, relative to her own affairs: assure her I have no distrust of either of you, yet shall I send a letter of attorney, that you may take your opportunity to get her to perfect it. I think the confidence she has in my integrity in the discharge of her affairs, will engage her to sign it without a probability of its ruffling her; if your sister persists in her opinion, she will not, I presume, refuse me a letter† signed by you both, that my sister had been pleased and satisfied with what I had transacted, (to the best of your knowledge) and that it is your own opinion, that I had not been deficient in attention or care while I have acted as her attorney. Consider my dear S—, you and your sister may marry; very good men have sometimes a litigious turn; my peace might be disturbed: I need say no more. Doctor and Miss — are intending for Bath early next month. I will send the letter of attorney with them, and then act as you think most eligible. Miss M— mentions the funds; they are very fluctuating, and where one hopes the money is very well secured, and at 6 per cent. one is loth to take but four, &c. May every good attend you all, is the sincere wish of much your affectionate, &c.

M. K.

The

* I have heard from good authority, that my grand-father K— died worth 70,000l. though he left my mother and her two daughters no more than 900l. notwithstanding she had married at sixteen, entirely in compliance with his will, and had never been guilty of any thing that could justly give him offence. One circumstance is so much to her credit, that I should be unpardonable in concealing it: That notwithstanding my grand-father's unnatural treatment of her, she has never since his death, uttered a disrespectful word of him. I might here enumerate her good qualities, did I not fear I should do her injustice by it, as she has no faults, but what may more properly be imputed to disorder, than to nature.

† We knew my mother was very little acquainted with what my aunt had done; and on our own part, we could not approve of her losing the leases of Caple-street concern, &c.

The first letter of attorney being astray, is a very just cause for getting another, and this could not alarm my sister: be so good to sign it yourselves: it will have more ease in the appearance, than if you called upon strangers to do it. I desire Miss M— to tell me how I should send her money, but she gave me no directions. I mean to send twelve pounds due by your uncle this March, 6l. 11s. 8d. Mr. —'s half year to Feb. last, and 5l. os. od. the additional salary due Dec. the 14th last. Love to my sister and your's. Adieu, &c.

LETTER LXVII.

DEAR MADAM,

Bath, March the 31st, 1773.

I Beg the favour that you will immediately, out of the money of our's in your hands, pay my cousin E— W—d, 22l. 15s. od. for which he has my draft on Mr W—, with interest from Aug 13th, 1772; and deliver the said draft to Mr. J. H—, attorney, of Longford-street. We long impatiently to hear from you. My mother desires her love, &c. M. W.

I presume it is scarce necessary to say, that I mean the 12l. due from my uncle to us the 12th of this month, Mr. —'s money, and the 5l. we receive of my mother's money, due the 14th of last December. I believe there will not be much left.

LETTER LXVIII.

MY DEAR GIRLS,

Dublin, April the 2d, 1773.

IT will be a great surprize to find your aunt W—d at Bath, particularly as I wrote so lately and was not able to give you the information. I am sure her own feelings from disorder in her stomach, and great lowness she is subject to, determines her, and I heartily hope and believe she will receive benefit; then she might not meet a party. Well, I send by her this same letter of attorney*, inclosed in one which tells your mother why I ask it.

K

I see

* KNOW all Men by these Presents, That I, M— W—, now residing in the city of Bath, in the county of Somerset, and kingdom of Great-Britain, but of the city of Dublin, in the kingdom of Ireland, widow, have made, ordained, constituted and appointed, and by these presents do make,

I see no possibility of its ruffling or discomposing of her. I also send the old letter of attorney, that you may see that it is not as satisfactory full as the one to be perfected. You will please to inclose the new one again in the letter for my sister, and seal it. I left it open for your perusal; and I think to assure you it can have no bad effect, or that she can make the least boggle at it, the 200l. Mr. — had of her's, from Miss M—'s hint*, I called in. I had been inquiring for security before: Mr. P— told me there was such to be had then, as was very ample and good for 300l. I added the other 100l. and the three is lent on the bond and mortgage of — —, Esq; at 6 per cent. Miss M— mentions the funds as eligible for my sister's money; the debentures are subject to be paid without any warning, and price fluctuating, the interest 4 per cent. so consider the matter maturely, for I am ready

make, ordain, constitute and appoint, and in my place and stead put and depute M— K—, of the city of Dublin, aforesaid, spinster, my true and lawful attorney, for me and in my name and for my use to ask, demand, sue for, recover, and receive, of and from all person and persons, all sum and sums of money of what nature or kind soever, due and owing, or which shall become due and owing to me, and on receipt thereof, or any part thereof, for me and in my name, from time to time, any discharge or discharges, receipt or receipts, or other voucher or vouchers to give for the same: and in case of non-payment of all or any of such sum or sums of money, for me and in my name to take all lawful ways and means for the recovery and receipt thereof, as to my said Attorney shall seem meet. And I do hereby authorize and empower my said Attorney in general to do, act, and transact for me and in my name and for my use, all matters and things whatsoever relative to me in the said kingdom of Ireland, as fully and amply to all intents and purposes, as if I myself were personally present at the doing thereof. And I hereby ratify and confirm all deed and deeds heretofore executed, and hereafter to be executed for me and in my name by the said M— K—, as fully and effectually to all intents and purposes, as if I myself had executed the same. And lastly, I do hereby ratify and confirm whatsoever my said attorney has heretofore done by virtue of and under a former power of attorney, and shall hereafter do or cause to be done in the premises, as fully and amply as if the same had been done by me, or that I was personally present at the doing thereof. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this thirtieth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-three.

Signed, Sealed, and Delivered, }
in the presence of us,

Mrs. M. W—, } A general
to } power of
M. K—, spinster. } Attorney.

* It never occurred to me, that she could possibly think of calling in the money upon what I said, which was only what I had heard on ship-board: that the gentleman in whose hands it was, who has a large estate, was engaged in a law-suit.

ready and willing to get the money in and place it so, if it is what you both think best; the affair is your concern much more than mine, so shall be guided by you. I asked you about the 50 pounds, you once spoke of, wishing to know your determination, but your reply was vague and unsatisfactory; had you explained yourself clearly, dear M—, I might have sent the money by this opportunity; but another may offer: and let me know as Mr. W— has not paid your cousin N—, and that he does not keep the twelve pounds paid by my brother, whether it is your intention that what is due on that account should be deducted from the 50l. and that you will give a bond payable to your mother for the whole sum. Don't be displeased on this occasion; there is no intention of offence; and I wish and request, that you do not give yourself a way of writing with such resentment, where really, if matters were considered coolly and properly, there should be acknowledgment. I send, for which please to let me have receipts paid for my brother 12l. os. od. half a year paid by Mr. — to Aug. last 6l. 11s. 8d. half a year's annuity accountable to your mother 5l. os. od. 23l. 11s. 8d. I send 21 guineas, which is 23l. 17s. 9d. I heartily wish you may be in possession of them soon on every account, you will believe, especially from the anxiety naturally arising from sister W—d being the bearer of the packet. Compliments to Mrs. — and all friends that inquire, not forgetting Miss S—. Believe me to be your sincere friend, &c. M. K.

M— W—d would write for herself, but the hurry my sister's going so sudden, puts it out of her power.

I send Mr. P—'s note* sent to me with the letter of attorney.

LETTER LXIX.

DEAR MADAM,

April 12th, 1773.

WE were indeed much surprized to see my aunt W—d, not having heard that she had any thoughts of coming; however, we were very glad to see her look so well, and think she was very much in the right to seize on a good opportunity of trying
K 2 again

* Mr. P—'s respectful compliments wait on Mrs. K—, and has sent her the Letter of Attorney formerly signed by Mrs. W—, and the one Mrs. K— is to send over. Mr. P— has not sealed it, but Mrs. K— will direct Mrs. W— to put a seal to it; the date may stand as it does, tho' Mrs. W— should execute it afterwards.

P—-street, 27th March, 1773.

again a medicine she had found so efficacious before. I hope she will experience the like advantage from it. I am very sorry my last letter did not reach you before she left Dublin; I sent it as I did, that it might not be delayed: yet, as you have been kind enough to tell me I may have the 50l. of my mother's, I asked for when in Dublin, it makes it less material. You will oblige me by paying my cousin E—W—d the money he has my draft for, with the interest, and delivering the draft to Mr. H—, as I requested: I believe he must give a receipt for it. The remainder of the 50l. you will send to us, if you have an opportunity; if not, we will take it up here, and give our bond for the whole. You sent us 22 guineas, instead of 21. The money we were to have was, from my uncle 12l. Mr. —'s money August 1st, 1772, 6l. 11s. 8d. and my mother's 5l. os od. in all 23l. 11s. 8d. 22 guineas is 25l. os. 6d. You see, therefore, that we have received 1l. 8s. 10d. too much, which we will either return to you by my aunt, or you can pay yourself out of the 50l. We will send receipts by my aunt. I have not read the letter of attorney yet; will it be sufficient to empower you to renew the lease of Caple-street? As you think the security good, we are perfectly satisfied with the situation of the money, and acknowledge ourselves greatly indebted to you for any attention you shew to our interest. &c. M. W.

It has been a matter of some surprize to us, that we have not heard any thing of Stoney-batter, though you undertook to write to my uncle about it, and even promised for his making it over to us, &c. What am I to think of it?

L E T T E R LXX.

MY DEAR M—,

Dublin, May the 8th, 1773.

I Have wished as much as you could, to have that little instrument perfected, which conveys our property in Stoney-batter to you and your sister. I think it must be finished soon, and hope all parties being agreed that it should be so, you will not be very uneasy on account of it. You ask me what you are to think? “*My brother K— having declared his readiness to have every thing

* DEAR M—, — — I think you have the greatest reason to assure yourself, that sister K— would not answer for me, without an assurance of my performing what she promised. I have directed E. W—d, who has a full power of attorney to act for me, to do in this affair as sister K— shall direct, and thought it had been settled long since; and further, you may depend, that I never will take any step in this affair to hurt your interest. &c. J. K—.

10th March, 1773.

thing done to make it over to you," that "your *cousin N. W—d has done the same," and I here acknowledge my own consent and desire that it should be done; and believe me it is to the unfurmountable delays one meets with from men of business, that you can only justly impute its not being compleated. I went with aunt F— and Miss B. to see the concern yesterday; some part is almost ruinous; other parts in good condition. Mr. B— finds the attention to getting in the rents, (the principal house being let in tenements) more than he has time for; therefore we have agreed to employ a Mr. C—, with whom my aunt lodges, and who is a man of good character, to receive the rents, and he has a letter of attorney for that purpose. Mr. B— has by his account 8l. 15s. 0½d. of your's and S—'s out of the concern, which I hope to get from him next week, and send it with the overplus money after paying your cousin E. W—d's draft: little did I think that the guinea you mention went to you; for though my sister did not go for several days, I thought when I put up the money, she was going immediately, so in my hurry made the mistake. Your cousin desires his compliments to you, that what he did was to oblige you, that he never intended nor shall not take interest on such a trifle; there is paid to him 20 guineas,

£ 22 15 0

The guinea I sent by mistake 1 2 9

To the £ 26 2 3 I hope

to add 8 15 0½ so shall

23 17 9

hope to get you a good bill To make it up 50l. I send you 26 2 3

for both the latter sums,

which will make £ 34 17 3½

50 0 0

and you will send the bond signed and witnessed, when sister W—d returns, and the letters of attorney; I mean the new one, for at present I have none for doing my sister's business; that I sent will undoubtedly answer for the renewal of Caple-street. I never have heard a word from one of them; there is two years G. rent due last March; no one comes for it. I presume it is to convince us that they do not want money; and I am told to appear too zealous may hurt the cause. I am much concerned that you have not yet shook off your complaints. I am told that it was from the use of tar-water that Miss — got so much benefit. Surely if you think her physician can or may serve you, could you

* DEAR COZEN,

Dublin, 31st of March, 1773.

— — — Can assure you I am very ready and willing at any time, to do any thing either for my uncle or myself, to confirm Stoney-batter to you.

&c.

E— W—d.

you do better than consult him? what is all the world without a share of health? I fear I have tired you as well as myself. Adieu. Both our love to sister and S—. Believe me your sincere and affectionate, &c. M. K.

Compliments to all inquiring friends.

LETTER LXXI.

DEAR M—,

May the 15th, 1773. Dublin.

THE above bill is to pay the remainder of 50l. for which you give your bond payable to your mother, and sister W—d will, I hope, be the bearer, though we are very anxious that she should not be in too great hurry. Doctor H—renews his wishes that she should not, every time we see him.

I paid your cousin N—	£ 22	15	0	
a guinea above what your sum was	1	2	9	
to make up 50l.	26	2	3	Total £ 50 0 0

Now for the above sum and how made up	£ 26	2	3
Received from Mr. B—, out of Stony-batter	-	8	15 0½
For sister W—d, to pay for things for me, if to her mind	-	-	4 11 0
			<hr/> 39 8 3½ Irish.

The exchange is vastly high. Bankers always have 1 per cent. more than merchants: in short, times are so slippery that I thought it most eligible to keep to what you had directed me to do; the few shillings which was over the last payment to you, appropriate to the payment of the four guineas, which you are to pay sister W—d out of this money. I have wrote twice to Mr. B— this last week, to have that little article perfected, which makes over all property any of us, my brother K—, N— W—d for his father, or myself had, or hath, in Stony-batter to you and your sister S—, jointly, and he tells me it shall be done out of hand. I presume there can be no difficulty in getting sister W—, to perfect the letter of attorney. Remember I have never a one now. I hope you find your complaints better. Have you thought it right to consult Dr. D—. I hear it was tar-water which has been so happy a remedy to Miss ——. I long to hear that you are pretty well; and enjoy yourselves, as well as having so disordered a parent will admit of: every body is ready to esteem you more, to wish your entertainment, and is sensible it is not want of spirit or inclination

nation to see your acquaintances and friends, but from the situation your mother is in. It is late, and I am apt at long epistles; so God bless you both, and believe me to be sincerely your affectionate, &c. M. K. Remembrance from the M---'s to all friends and inquierers.

LETTER LXXII.

DEAR MADAM,

May 24th, 1773.

I Received your favour of the 15th instant, with a bill of L—— and sons, this morning, for 35l. 10s. 1d. English. We will get the bond perfected immediately, and deliver it to my aunt W—d. You forgot to tell me how you have disposed of my draft, though you mention having paid the money to my cousin for it. I gave my mother your letter, and the letter of attorney, some time ago: she seldom thinks it necessary to acquaint me with her sentiments; so I cannot say what she has determined in regard to it. I mean the letter of attorney. I beg you will give my compliments to my cousin W—d. I should have thought myself very much obliged to him had he taken the interest, as he assisted me when I was in distress. I am still more so. I am, &c.

M. W.

LETTER LXXIII.

DEAR MADAM,

June 26th, 1773.

—IF my mother does not perfect the letter of attorney you sent, as I am pretty sure she will not, I shall return the old one by my aunt. I could wish it were less limited, but know no remedy, for whatever you may think, my mother is not to be dealt with as a person in health; however, my aunt is to speak to her about signing the other, and will probably hear her sentiments with regard to it, from her own mouth. A particular letter of attorney, I know will be necessary for the renewing of Capel-street, which I do not hear any thing of now, and am apprehensive it will be forgot; and as I cannot be indifferent about the possession of what belonged to my father, consequently no person can have so just a title to it as ourselves: if I do not soon receive more satisfactory accounts than I have hitherto done, relative to it, I shall certainly re-visit Ireland.

Your

Your last letter made me hope that Stoney-batter affair would at last be settled; but some weeks have elapsed since, and it still remains unfinished. You must excuse me (perhaps there are some more things in my letter to excuse) if I think I have been ungenerously treated; and if eleven months be necessary for the drawing of every such deed, as Mr. B— seemed to think (when I was in Ireland) was sufficient for the present purpose. I heartily pray, that no business of mine may ever come under his cognizance for the future.

I am, &c.

M. W.

LETTER LXXIV.

DEAR M—,

July the 9th, 1773.

I Received your's of the 26th of June this day, and there being nothing material to answer in point of time, you have it from London inclosed in a frank to my brother: it gives us great pleasure to find sister W—d is well; her last letter we thought was not in so good spirits as the former. Indeed we are heartily wishing for her now, supposing and hoping she has taken as much of the waters as may answer every salutary purpose, and fears the anxiety which absence from her family occasions, may hurt her. Thank God they are all well, and ardently wishing for a happy meeting. Should my sister W— not perfect the last letter of attorney, I presume you and S— can have no objection to declare your approbation of what I have done in regard to paying and receiving, putting out and calling in her money. I have told you all proceedings from time to time, and though it may not be absolutely necessary, yet for my ease of mind, and not a possibility of hurting you, you cannot consider it as unreasonable; should you do so, I can but write to my sister, to know who she would have to act for her, and I shall give up my charge with great satisfaction, my own business being as much as I would wish to have to take care of, especially as I never proposed or had any advantage myself by doing other people's: therefore it is but reasonable that every thing should be made smooth and easy to me. Your cousin N— gave up the draft to your attorney; he should have informed you so. I should have expected my attorney to do so. Caple-street has not been forgot. Miss T— told me she had friends to consult with, which she could not hurry, but wait their time, "perhaps it might be half, perhaps a whole year, before she could determine" whether the offer made, could
be

be accepted. I thought I was to wait till I heard further from her; the offer was 30l. per annum, or 200l. at the same rent. If you think more should be offered, I can do it; thus far you knew before. You had better reckon by what you were able to do in the business when here last, and then consider if you had better come again; that is the method discretion points. Father, or be it who it will's possession, if we have right, we would surely maintain it, if we can. I beg to know how you are ungenerously treated as to Stoney-batter concern? I never took more pains about any matter, than to get our right vested in you and your sister. The last time I saw poor B—, he called to tell me he had drawn the deed for that conveyance, and had left it with Mr. P—, for his approbation. Term has since been in; it is not six days since I wrote to Mr. P— about it, and have not yet heard; by experience, when you were here, you found disappointment on disappointment. I can do no better for you than I do; so take your course: but B—'s delays, or otherwise, will neither offend nor give you pleasure; he has paid his debt to nature; he died three weeks ago. My love to sister and S—; M— joins me in it; and believe me your friend, &c. M. K.

My dear S— has favoured me with very agreeable letters sometimes: I should be sorry that indolence or any other cause prevented, it being the only means of chat at present. Compliments to Mrs. C—, and all inquiring friends.

L E T T E R LXXV.

DEAR M—,

Aug. the 19th, 1773.

THE deed of conveyance as to Stony-batter, is at last finished, signed, and sealed; but you mistake exceedingly in supposing there is a hundred pounds arrears*, as you told my brother K—. I called the other day on the agent, in regard to the renewal; the lady is now in Limerick, and what she said to him on it, was, that she had uncles to consult, as I before related to you, and that it will be some time before she can get their opinion. I told him that you were impatient, and the tenants very impatient to have the matters settled, the houses growing more ruinous every day, and they unable to rebuild or repair; he promised when she came

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* ——— I found that the tenant R— D—, or his representatives, were in arrear for them rent of the premises, above 200l. Mr. W— C—'s letter to Miss W—, 21st April, 1774.

to town, to speak of it; and what I hear you shall know; a weak eye prevents more at present, as I am troubling a friend. My love to S—, and will remember to speak of what she mentioned before she was at age. I am sincerely your affectionate, &c. M. K.

L E T T E R LXXVI.

DEAR S—,

Aug. the 29th, 1773.

THERE is no request you can make me, that I shall not comply in, to the best of my ability; and in regard to that difficulty relative to the interest of your money (left you by my father) be assured your mother received it: when I go to town will get your cousin N— to look for the receipts she gave; my brother need not have paid it, (yet I am sure did) for had you not lived till you came at age, the legacy would have lapsed to my father's fortune, and it is fully my opinion, that whatever interest was paid till you were at age, there was no legal demand for. I think should I ask my brother about it, he would be surprized; but I am sure will give any information in his power, if asked.

My love to M—; can't but be astonished that she don't see the reasonableness of my having secure and proper powers to transact my sister's business. She said, "she thought I could not have read the letter of attorney sent her mother to sign;" indeed I did; wrong it is to give such powers, where one has not an opinion of the person's integrity and care, where you give it; if they answer the opinion, how can you suffer more than you are liable to from your own transacting; there is at present *lent out* of my sister W—'s 300l. to ———, with his mother, cousin ——— bound in bond with him; there is also 300l. to ———, Esq; for which there is bond and mortgage of lands, which Mr. P—— assures me is worth 1500l. I can hand them over (thank God) to whomsoever she appoints, at this time, whole and sole, nothing appears to the contrary at present, and I took equal care in placing it as if it had been mine own; should any thing happen, is it fair or right that I should not be exonerated? when I received that letter of attorney, there was only rents to receive*, the money which accrued from them and remained in my hands, I have put out to the best of my skill, as above; but sure it ought not to be at my own risque, when I am accountable for every penny interest received.

* A mistake. My mother had money out at interest then, and her annuity.

received. I shall rejoice, if my last letter determines my sister to come over; for I honestly say I long to give up both her's and your accounts. My eye is still weak; so excuse more from affectionately your's, &c. M. K.

L E T T E R LXXVII.

DEAR MADAM,

Sept. 4th, 1773.

I Intended writing to you next Monday, to inform you, that we should take up the money due to us, 29l. 11s. 8d. Irish, the following Monday, Sept. 13th; but, hearing that Mr. H— is dead, and that Mr. ———, attorney, is his executor, I have wrote to him, desiring he will deliver to you a bond* from Mr. J. W—, for 74l. 19s. 10d. payable in three months from the 22d of May. You will be pleased to give a receipt for it. If he does not bring it, you will be so kind to send to him for it. He lives in S——-street. You will oblige us too, to discharge his account, and when we know what it is, we will take care it shall be repaid.

I intend writing to Mr. C—— for a copy of the deed, that I may be acquainted with the nature of my obligations, and enabled to acknowledge them properly. I presume the person in whose hands the deed is, can have no objection to giving a receipt for it. You are sensible it is necessary to the support of our claim, that we should either have the deed, or be able to produce testimony that there is such a thing. I am, dear madam, &c. M. W.

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LETTER

* MADAM,

24th May, 1773.

I Received your favours, have often waited upon Counsellor W——, who could not raise the money you mentioned on the bills sent me, which, for principal and interest, amount as underneath. He has proposed to give me his bond for it, payable in three months from the 22d instant, which being a better security, I have agreed to accept of, which is to be executed this day, at the expiration of which time, he must pay, or the sheriffs will sell by virtue of an execution. I have acted for you as I would for myself, and hope my conduct will please you, and am, Madam, your most obedient servant,

J. H——.

4th of Jan. 1773. Bill of this date and accepted 18th, at
21 days, which was due 10th of Feb.

	-	-	£ 50	0	0
Interest to 22d May, 3 months and 12 days	-	-	0	16	11
Post of protest and postage,	-	-	0	7	6
13th Aug. 1772. Bill due 23d of August,	-	-	22	15	0
Interest to 23d May, 1773, nine months	-	-	1	0	5

Amount of Bond, carrying interest from that day

£ 74 19 19

LETTER LXXVIII.

Sept. the 23d.

DEAR M—, I don't think there is that exists, who is more dexterous, more clever, or compleat than yourself, at finding and picking up occasion for your own uneasiness and vexation. I thought no doubt, you would have expressed some pleasure (thanks I hardly supposed I should have been thought worthy of) that the deed was finished; I assure you it cost me twice going from Bray to town*, about ten days, though I have no horses of my own either; but now that is accomplished, you want a copy of this deed in order to support your claim; for as to testimony (had I an inclination to secret it) my letters to you, I think, would be very sufficient; a weighty letter of your's (as to paper) is brought to me to the country, inclosing one for Mr. C—, which I have not sent him; for had you taken the smallest time to have considered, he could not have any thing to do with that deed, which is in my hands, and consists, trifling as the gift is, of two sheets of parchment, which I dare say will be three or four guineas expence; the copy must be the same, besides the difficulty in getting it over: the original had better, I believe, be sent, if you find it for your security that it should be in your own hands; for I know no good it can do here; its probable my being in the country has prevented my hearing from Mr. —, or more likely that he is gone circuit; but shall send, if I do not hear soon; the weather is so very rough, storms violent, and rain a good deal, will be driving us to town soon, if it does not subside; at any rate a few weeks is as much as we can propose staying. When you write next, I shall be obliged to you to engage to the party a little time more than will stretch to four lines, especially when in your letter a few days before, you tell me, my sister had a violent feverish attack, and says not a word of the health of the family; no news is good I trust. My affectionate love to S—, with my sister; it is strange you or she could suppose, I should or could put a letter of attorney to any use which could injure her or be to her disadvantage. When I got that letter of attorney, she had none but rents to receive, the savings which accrued in my hands I carefully put out, and yet I am not able to obtain a proper instrument to transact her business for her. I shall ask Mr. P—, and if he says I am not entirely safe and exonerated, from casualties which may happen, as all agents are, shall, if she pleases, call in the money, or shall give up the securities to whom she may appoint. Believe me sincerely your's, &c.

M. K.

LETTER

LETTER LXXIX.

DEAR MADAM,

Sept. 27th, 1773.

I Received a *letter from my uncle the other day, in which he tells me, that Cagle-street concern is worth my attention, and advises me not to neglect it. I always thought so, and went to Ireland principally about it. You told me then, it could be done without me. I wish you would make your words good. The year Miss T— took to consider, is now elapsed, and I am persuaded she cannot be so ungentle to keep us longer in suspense. I am not to learn, that you missed instead of assisting me, and shall conclude, if the affair is not speedily finished, that somebody has taken a fancy to it, whose interest you have more at heart than our's.

I am, &c.

M. W.

LETTER LXXX.

DEAR M—,

Nov. the 20th, 1773. Dublin.

I Have your's of the 27th of Sept. hopes your tooth-ach is long since well; that Cagle-street concern is worth attention, I have always thought, and have not been the cause of any let or hindrance that I know of, to its having been settled. I wrote you that I called on Mr. S— two months ago, and urged the matter as much as I could; Miss T— was then in the country. I have wrote to him since, and expects an answer daily, and when I have any thing to say which is satisfactory, shall certainly let you know; but cannot drive folks faster than they chuse to go. I find it heavily in my own affairs; so you must not think (though disagreeable) that you are single in meeting disappointment. Mr.

* DEAR M—,

— — — Am glad the deed is perfected; and from the time it has been about, ought to be well done; it does not now appear to me of any consequence to you, who claimed, as I suppose all parties have signed the deed, myself excepted, and N—'s signing for me (having a full power for that purpose) is equally valid; or is it of any consequence your having a copy of the deed, except for your own satisfaction; and that you will find, will not answer the cost. Your thanks are too many, more than I wished for or desired. Your and S—'s accommodation was my motive, and that is sufficient as to acknowledgment. The renewal of Cagle-street concern is an object worth attending to, and would recommend to you not to neglect it.

London, 11th Sept. 1773.

&c.

J. K—.

——* called here, and writing by a frank procures you this letter; he will tell you how matters are, as to your demand on Mr. W—; an unpleasant man to deal with in money matters; yet I could not see him quite crushed, as I really believe him very industrious, and rather getting up the hill. I hope too I shall be secured; he makes over the lease of his house to me for that purpose; and I hope your money will be very safe, and that you will be satisfied with me as security for it. My Lord —— is exceedingly teasing to me; not a farthing can I get from him, nor have not since last December; had I succeeded in getting a payment from him, I could have paid you immediately, if you chose it. Pray is this money in payment of the bond which you know sister W— and S— are parties in? I think I heard you say, Mr. W. paid you 70 odd pounds, when you were here last. I have many apologies to make for not having remembered telling you of sister W—'s arrival, which I had undertaken to do, yet strangely forgot it. I hope my sister is well, and S—, to whom my love. I have not yet got the lottery tickets. I have been so unsuccessful in my purchasing for you, that I almost wish you would employ some one who may be more fortunate. Pray my love to Mrs. ——, jun. I should be glad to know she had not quite forgot us; if sent, be there, best wishes to both. Your's affectionately,

M. K.

LETTER LXXXI.

DEAR MADAM,

Nov. 29th, 1773.

I Received your letter of the 20th instant, and confess, I think, that however tender you are of J. W—, you have very little consideration for us. The money we took up upon that bill, is not yet paid, nor could you suppose it was, as you knew there was above 22l. deducted out of the 50l. you were to lend us of my mother's money, and we cannot live without money. Mr. —— has not wrote, but it makes no difference; we want the money, and cannot do without it. This money has nothing to do with the bond in your hands. I am in a great hurry, so must conclude, with begging to be remembered affectionately to all with you. I am, dear madam, &c.

M. W.

My sister's love. We shall take the first opportunity of writing to my cousin M—

LETTER

* MADAM,

Dublin, 2d Dec. 1773.

I Received a letter some time ago, from Mrs. K— for you, which I meant to inclose in a frank, but by mistake it was put in the office without one. I threatened to issue an execution against Counsellor W—, upon which Mrs. K— interfered; and request to know if her letter is satisfactory to you? If not, I shall take such steps as you please to direct. I have the honor to be, &c.

R— —

L E T T E R LXXXII.

DEAR MADAM,

Dec. 4th, 1773.

I Have your letter, in which you say, "the deed," "this deed," & "that deed," without any where mentioning what deed. I beg to be informed, whether the deed you mean, is the deed for making over to my sister and I, four hundred pounds of the thousand given up to my mother, after her death? I know that I have letters from my uncle W—d and you about it, and that you yourself told me at Miss L——'s, that it was done; but I have never seen any such deed, and own I was apprehensive that the letters were not sufficient testimony to support our claim to it. You remember, I dare say, that Mr. B— and my cousin D. T—, when I was in Ireland, talked of my cousin B—'s purchasing our part of Stoney-batter, as it would be most advantageous to have the thing entire, and she had the largest share in it. My uncle, I presume, having made over his title to my sister and I, for our accommodation, can have no objection to our disposing of it in such a manner as is most conducive to that end; and we have too great a respect for him, and his present, to come into any terms which may be thought inadequate to its value. I have accordingly made a tender of it to Miss T—s, if she chuses to purchase it, reminding her of some circumstances necessary to be considered with regard to the purchase. When I have her answer, I will acquaint you with it. I am, &c.

M. W.

L E T T E R LXXXIII.

DEAR MADAM,

Dec. 17th, 1773.

I Know you will laugh at my superstition, and I freely give you leave to do so; but as there is nothing more involuntary than our sleeping thoughts, hope you will not be offended. I dreamt last night, that my cousin N. W—d was endeavouring to supplant us in the renewal of Capel-street concern; the impression was so strong, that, when I awoke, I should have imagined the circumstances real, had it been possible. I confess myself weak enough to be affected by it, notwithstanding I am sure my cousin is utterly incapable of so flagrant an act of injustice: for may not some one else be base enough to take advantage of the delays? I flatter myself you will not be too severe upon what (I should suppose) must rather be deemed an infirmity than a fault, and that I shall hear from you by the return of the post, a particular account

of

of what is going forward with regard to it: if not, I shall write to Miss T— for her decisive answer; for I am not so ignorant of the world, but that I know, that good tenants are not generally treated with so much carelessness and indifference. I am, &c.

M. W.

LETTER LXXXIV.

Dublin, Dec. the 22d, 1773.

I Really do not know how to write to you, or in what stile, for you certainly chuse to be a very extraordinary correspondent to me. I have taken some care of your business, I have exerted my utmost; but cannot please you. Prithee look out and see who you chuse I should give up my unprofitable thankless charge to, for I am wearied out. When I meant Mr. W— a good office, I did not mean to have “very little consideration for you,” &c. as you express it; far from that, I supposed you served, and gratified, in getting what I hope is good *security for your demand, and your near relation relieved from a distress which was likely to crush him; under such circumstances, I expected thanks, not reproach; however if your money you *must have*, be it difficult as it will, *I must raise it*. Will you allow me to ask you all, why this anxious solicitude to get together all the money you can wrap or run? the best wishes for your future ease and independence puts me on the inquiry; interest being so much lower in England, I should think would make it not so eligible to place money there. On more mature considering of matters, I am not pleased with myself for having lent you that fifty pounds, without having let my sister know how her money is secured; it is the only thing of the kind I have done, and think I should appear very awkward should she desire her account; I might then indeed deserve reproach. I would run all risques rather than distress you, if the payment does not, I own I shall be better satisfied in having it discharged, our accounts will be fewer, consequently clearer, and that may make us better friends; as to your last letter and discanting on “the deed,” “this deed” and “that deed,” (“without any where mentioning what deed”), however great a fool your aunt may be, (she must, believe) was clearly relative to the deed of gift of Stony-batter, from the parties concerned, and which brought me to town two different times last summer, to get perfected; a thing so recent, needed I should think, little explanation; that you give it,
I am

I am entirely unacquainted with; nay if I had thought of it, must say you chose a bad time to mention it, when because *you can*, I find by your attorney, your directions to him continue *in force*, without any consideration to *my security*; perhaps if I were to be arrested; — but no matter, the 50 pounds you owe your mother, I call in, being her attorney, and it shall be so much towards your payment. I could not have given credit that my mediation was so low in your esteem, till Mr. W—— coming in since my writing the other side, tells me Mr. — has orders to proceed. The givers of that small matter at Stony-batter, who are my brother K—, myself and your cousin E. W—d, I dare say have no objection to you and S— doing with it as may be most to your advantages; but much is to be done first: the arrears due are to be given up, and an offer of ten or twelve guineas to be made (which an ejectment would cost) for to obtain the lease made to one D——. I presume Mr. C—— has told you the necessity of this proceeding. Consider well as to the renewal in Caple-street: I am told it would be subject to your father's debts* at your mother's death. My love to S—, wishing you all the compliments of the season. Your's, &c. M. K.

Compliments to Mrs. A——s, C——, and all inquiring friends. I appointed Mr. — to call this day, to exchange bonds and to have paid him the overplus for you; but thought I, without your particular direction, ought I to do it? will it be safe? Mr. — I never heard of before, and you will be charged fifty per cent. for transacting the business by an attorney; he said indeed, your directions were so peremptory, that he knew not how to wait your reply; what prevailed with, was supposing the exchange of bonds might be less chose by you than giving time. I wait to hear if I must transact the business with him.

M

LETTER

* I wish it was in my power to be particular about these, as there is nothing gives me more real concern than that any of my father's debts should remain unpaid. No part of his effects ever came into our hands, nor did the acting executors ever inform us of any of their proceedings, or account (even to my mother, an executrix) for the monies which passed through their hands.

My mother never got any part of 800l. settled upon her at her marriage. There is a bond of the late E—d F——, Esq; K— of G——, to my father for 500l. the interest up to the principal. Judgment had been entered, but has been neglected to be revived.

When I was in Dublin in the year 1772, Mr. W—— told me if he had some paper relative to a mortgage in C—— B—— L——, he could recover for us 500l. I searched for it, but could not find it.

LETTER LXXXV.

DEAR MADAM,

Dec. 30th, 1773.

I Received a *letter from my uncle this morning, in which he says, "There cannot be the least impropriety in your and S—'s soliciting a renewal of Capel-street concern, should my sister decline it; and think, it would not be adviseable to suffer the lease to run out. You seemed so anxious about Stony-batter, which appeared to me not of equal consequence to Capel-street, that I thought you had quite forgot the latter. Sister K—, I am sure, will do every thing for your service in this business, and am certain, nothing necessary will be omitted on her part, when there is a probability of advancing your interest." I do not question but you will make good my uncle's words; however, I will write to Miss T— for her determination, and will, then, apply to you for your assistance.

I am, &c.

M. W.

LETTER LXXXVI.

MADAM,

Jan. 3d, 1774.

I Have delayed writing a post, in the hope that something might have happened to excuse me from the necessity of answering your's of Dec. 22d; but fearing my silence may be productive of disagreeable consequences, I am constrained to write a few lines. Once more, then, I say, that the money we took up upon that bill, accepted by Mr. J. W—— last January, and afterwards sent back protested, (without the least previous notice, or the smallest apology

DEAR M——,

— — — — There cannot be the least impropriety in your and S—'s soliciting a renewal of Capel-street concern, should my sister decline it; and think it would not be adviseable to suffer the lease to run out. You seemed so anxious about Stony-batter, which appeared to me not of equal consequence to Capel-street, that I thought you had quite forgot the latter. Sister K—, I am sure, will do every thing for your service in this business, and am certain nothing necessary will be omitted on her part, when there is a possibility of advancing your interest. You cannot complain of her being extravagant as to fees, or that she detains your money to put it to interest for her own use. I am confident you have the best agent in Ireland. I am, &c. J. K—.

London, 28th Dec. 1773.

apology for doing so) is not yet paid; and it is very unreasonable to expect, that I should favour my enemies, at the hazard of prejudicing my friends; for, notwithstanding Mr. W—— is, as you say, my near relation, I trust, he is the greatest enemy I have in the world.

If you please, you may tell my mother of the 50l. I will tell her myself. She can have no objection to its remaining in our hands; it cannot be more securely placed, nor bring in better interest; however, if she chuses it, we will pay it in; but have a right to expect at least three months notice. When Mr. W—— discharges the bond of my aunt W——'s, in your hands, which you said he would do in a term or two, our's is discharged also: for you have an acknowledgment under my mother's hand, that 40l. of the money is our's; which, with the interest for so many years, will be more than the money due to her. I wait with impatience for Mr. C——'s letter. You really reduce my uncle's present sadly; and, almost tempt me to believe, that he gave it to us, because he knew it was not worth any thing: but I will not think so ill of him. I have informed myself with regard to what you mention about Capel-street concern, and am satisfied it ought to be renewed: will write to Miss T—— to know her terms, and will then get a proper letter of attorney drawn up, to empower you to transact that business. I am, &c. M. W.

LETTER LXXXVII.

Dublin, 14th Jan. 1774.

YOU say the 22 pounds is not yet paid; this draft will satisfy that demand, and I hope make you easy; thirty pounds of it, is in part of the bond of Mr. W——'s, for which let me have your receipt; the remainder the exchange of bonds will answer. You mention three months time, or getting your mother's consent; if the latter should be obtained, I shall then pay the remainder of Mr. W——'s bond, for which I am security, and I trust sufficient, though you are unsatisfied. I knew nothing of the *protest; I acknowledge it was a trial; far am I from justifying him; his plea is absolute inability; and indeed while here you got more money out of him†, than I thought would be possible, as he could not get a purchaser for Skinner-row. I must remind you,

M 2

* I wrote a particular account of it to my uncle at the time,

† See Letter LVII.

you, that we who read the sacred Bible, find no such precepts as persecuting our veriest enemies; indeed we read of a Shylock that would have the very flesh, but we are not in love with the character. You don't answer my paragraph, where I desire you to look out for some better hands to place your business in; by the expiration of three months I must insist upon it; many have admired my patience, for indeed you have been imperious; and M—, take one piece of advice, endeavour to govern your passions, and think not so highly of yourself; the five pounds I send is your annuity for half a year to Dec. the 14th, and pray send me a receipt for this and for the last I sent you, which was part of 29 pounds, and for which I have no acknowledgement. I mean for the five pounds; I sent you also 28 pounds, which made up the fifty; therefore could not suppose you could be in want of money. I am sure you are sensible how terrible a thing it is to run out. Consider you bring your sister into all your schemes. Sure I am, if she had less than she has, she would never involve herself. Forgive me; it is my regard urges me to speak. I am surprized I have not heard from Mr. S—; it is two months, I am sure, since I wrote; he said I should hear immediately. I will write to Miss T— in a day or two, to tell your impatience, and to know the result; your dream you might have been troubled with by night, but I never would have committed it to paper; I would not for any consideration your cousin saw it. Mr. C— has got the deed of gift of Stony-batter, and says a copy of it may be conveyed to you; when given up to you and your sister by all our consents, it brought in above seven pounds clear to you; difficulties have arisen since; but it is too soon for you to declare war against your uncle. I beg of you don't be so apt to declare it. I must conclude, and desire love and good wishes to be made acceptable from, &c. M. K.

L E T T E R LXXXVIII.

MADAM,

I Received your letter of January 14th, in which you tell me, that I say the 22 pounds is not yet paid; if by the 22 pounds you mean the 21. 15s. I got from my cousin E. W—, upon my draft, drawn on and accepted by Mr. J. W—, August 1772, you know you yourself paid it out of the 50l. you lent us of my mother's money. I said, that the money (50l.) we received at the bank here, January 4, 1773, upon a draft on J. W—, accepted, and afterwards sent back protested (though he had the tenderest consideration shewn him, by early and repeatedly ap-
prising

prising him of our intention to draw, allowing him to fix his own time for our doing so, and giving him ample opportunity to prevent our drawing, in case he found that he could not answer our bill) was not yet paid. You take no notice of the bond from my aunt W— to my mother for 50l. now in your hands, though you well know that 40l. of the original sum is our's, with interest for a number of years, and I should think it were more equitable to ballance accounts between my mother and us, by the means of our respective bonds, (for in fact, that bond of my aunt's ought to have been made payable to us, the principal part of the money lent upon it being our's) than by bringing in a bond with which my mother is not the least connected: I cannot see why my mother should pay the money due to us from J. W—. We did not want security; we wanted the money: if, as you told me, they would not purchase his estate without his producing proofs that the incumbrances were paid off, we could not wish for better security, however difficult to get the money. I send receipts for the 5l. due the 14th of last December, and the preceding June; but will not send any receipt relative to Mr. W—, 'till I know what I am about, by a fair clear settlement taking place between us. I am sorry you have found the care of our affairs so troublesome; we did not mean it should be so; and will look out for a proper person to transact them for the future: and this alteration makes it absolutely necessary that Mr. W— should immediately discharge the whole debt he owes us, in which I include my aunt W—'s bond; the principal part of that money, as I said before, being my sister's and mine, notwithstanding the bond was made payable to my mother: or, if Mr. W— cannot now pay the whole money, that the residue remaining in his hands after his bond given to the late Mr. H—, is discharged with all the expences attending it, should be reduced to an even sum, for which we may demand and receive the interest regularly. If this is complied with, well; if not, I solemnly declare, I never will enter into any compromise or agreement with him; and should any person whatsoever attempt to patch up a settlement without my concurrence, I hereby declare, that no person is impowered by me, to make any settlement with Mr. W—, and that I will not stand to it if they do. When Mr. W— must have a house, buy plate, entertain expensively, buy horses and a chaise, talk of keeping a coach, keep more servants than those of ten times his fortune do here, and squander away his money at auctions upon pictures, &c. trifles he has no occasion for, because he "got them for nothing, nothing at all." I say, to a person acquainted with these, and several other things of the same nature, his plea of inability must appear highly ludicrous, and instead of raising compassion, be apt to provoke laughter.

There

There remains little more to answer than what you say with regard to my running out; and as I can justify myself with the greatest ease imaginable, from the imputation of extravagance, I am not sorry to be accused of it: It is more than seven years since I told you that I was in debt; when, by my aunt W—'s death my income was increased, I discharged those debts by degrees; the money you paid us (rent out of Stony-batter) in the years 1768 and 1769, we were obliged to refund in 1771, together with 6l. 15s. 9d. you lent us to make up the 100l. put out on Mr. ——— bond, and interest for the latter: we borrowed it of Mr. ———, paying interest for it, and sent it by Mr. R—— F——; we likewise received no rent out of Stony-batter in 1770 and 1771; in 1772 we received no more than 3l. 19s. 6½d. in the same year we paid 17l. 9s. 6d. for renewing the lease. The money* I received from my cousin E. W—d just before I left Dublin, was all the money I had to answer any little demands upon me there, defray the expences of my journey, and maintain us† for near 6 months, 'till the beginning of January 1773, when we drew upon Mr. W—, with his leave, for 50l. which we received at the bank, and kept pretty entire for a whole month; then imagining all danger of the draft's returning was past, we paid it away as far as it went, to such people as we owed money to; and a fortnight after, it came back protested. Mrs. S— seeing our distress, kindly offered to lend the money, and through her friendly assistance, we were enabled to support our credit, by discharging our obligation to the bank that same day. A few days after, an unexpected demand again perplexed us; we could not, like Mr. W—, think of putting them off with excuses, or promises: it was enough that they had a right to the money and wanted it. Without money, our credit stretched beyond our most sanguine expectations; we had no other resource, but were constrained to send to the pawnbroker's and raise the money upon my sister's watch, at an exorbitant interest. The next was the 22l. 15s. my cousin E. W—d paid me on the draft, accepted by J. W— when I was in Dublin, and which he promised in the most solemn manner to pay before he left town: this you deducted out of the 50l. of my mother's money we gave our bond for. Besides all these, we have continual draw-backs of lesser kinds; we buy our own coals and candles, and almost all our drink, my ——— for months together not giving us any other than water; nay, sometimes meat too; I being ordered not to eat more than one potatoe, no greens, turnips,

* £ 34 15 0 £ 22 15 on the draft, and half a year's interest upon 400l. from Mr. K——.

† Not altogether, but in such things as we were at the expence of.

turnips, &c. and there is frequently no other dinner provided, but either potatoes and greens, turnips and carrots, boiled apples, or pease-soup: we pay for the washing of our small linen too, and are obliged to give money to the servant, she having threatened to go away on account of my mother giving so little. Think not I mean to complain of my mother; her unhappy malady is more than a sufficient apology for any thing she does: I do not blame her, but,— I mean to shew that we cannot do without money; as neither my sister's constitution, nor mine, are equal to living in the manner my mother has planned for us.

I cannot be so solicitous that my cousin should not see my letter: my being sure he is incapable of a base action, can hardly as I apprehend, be construed into an affront. I have no intention of declaring war against my uncle, nor any body else; but am very well disposed to live quietly, if suffered to do so. I am, &c.

Jan. the 24th, 1774.

M. W.

P. S. The day I left Dublin, I gave Mr. W. a receipt for 9l. odd money,; which sum, with that due upon my draft when paid, was in part of interest upon my aunt W—'s bond.

LETTER LXXXIX.

Feb. the 11th, 1774.

WELL M—, your long letter of January the 24th, I have before me. I never did justify Mr. W---'s conduct, and find by this, that he was more blameable than I had thought, or heard of before; yet seeing a person who appears industrious and striving against difficulties, distressed and crush'd, does stir up humanity; often have I been very angry with him, and ill he has used me; yet did I go between him and utter destruction, not indeed to vex you, I thought it would have a different effect, and that having your demand secured, would rather have given pleasure; however in that I was disappointed, and brought myself into the dilemma from which he was relieved. I beg you impartially to ask yourself, is it generous, because I wished to convey that thirty pounds to you in the safest method, (not knowing any thing of Mr. —, who must have given me a receipt for so much of the bond) that you absolutely refuse me the least acknowledgment for it? is it again, I ask you, common justice? it is indeed in the way you have commonly treated me; but I will be cool; where I would wish to promote striving against unruly passions, and conquering of them, it would ill become me not to guard my own. I must say, Mr. W--- did all (or appeared to do it) that man could, to sell
Skinner.

Skinner-Row concern, and then he said he would pay all, and I know it was advertised for the purpose. You mention the bond I have in my hands of your aunt's as 50l. and forgets you were paid ten pounds of your share: I actually believe if you were to put him on the grid-iron, he cannot pay 'till he sells; but you do allow yourself to be so hot; be so good to say, who patches up settlements? (with all the mildness possible) I do say you should have some regard to whom it is you talk: as to his expences, I know not of them, nor never partook in them, and hope they are ideal; an unaccountable vanity, (if but so). The trouble that transacting your business cost me, I could have gone on with, my only intention was convenience to you, &c. and I presume that must have been ill answer'd, from the height and reproach I often met, and thanks never. I wrote to Miss T——, and inclose her answer*; I told her 300l. was ready to be laid down for the renewal; in the proposal first sent, she had her option to have her rent raised, or a sum of money paid; the latter we thought most eligible and convenient for my sister, and she could not doubt but the other would be complied with, if in reason; nothing but your own impetuosity obliged you to return the money I paid you on account of Stony-batter, (and did not receive). Your drawing on me when I had not a farthing of your's†, and your undertaking an expensive journey, with these arrears against you, put me upon mentioning them; but had no thought of demanding it 'till the concern produced: as to the 6l. 15l. 9d. I paid you no more interest than what your share came to; so there could not be the smallest cause occasioned by me for that exploit. You see how you have multiplied your own inconveniencies, by your touchy hastiness. I much lament the tight œconomy which is extremely disagreeable in it's consequences, though arising from the cause most assuredly which you impute it to, a dreadful malady indeed; nobody farther from any degree of narrowness than she, when really herself; it was on this account that the ten pounds was allowed out of my sister's property. There are none of your friends who do not exceedingly regret the trials and disagreeable trash you are unfortunately obliged to submit to; and is it not a pity that you are so easily offended, and express resentments nobody knows why or wherefore, that one actually is afraid perfectly

to

* Miss T——, in her note, mentioned Michaelmas, 1775, with regard to renewing. I wrote to her in return, but never received any answer.

† I had thoughts of going to Ireland at that time, and said I would draw for money; but altered my scheme, and did not draw. I am certain we never drew for money that was not immediately our own. I have not a copy of my letter; but see my aunt's answer to it, Letter XXVIII.

to open a letter, much more to write one, supposing it impossible to please, and a thousand to one offence taken; and is there not danger that friends may be less warm from these causes given? I meant not to charge you with extravagance, but take notice as you go along. You had above 70 pounds from Mr. W— when you were here; when the bond is paid it is 70 odd more; and what a hole that makes in your's and S—'s 200l. legacy he owed on your aunt's account; and how much lighter your income must necessarily be. My best love to S—, M— joins in it to her and yourself, with &c. M. K.

I sent Mr. C—— that I was writing, and would inclose a letter; he sends this account*, and intends writing in about 10 days. A. T— has been very ill, happened to have your letter, and he could not trouble her for it now. He has the deed of gift of Stony-batter in his hands. Please to give the inclosed to my sister, which contains a bill on P——'s for 50 pounds English.

N

LETTER

* Miss I. T——, and the Miss W—s, their account with W. C—. Dr. Cr.

£. s. d.		£. s. d.
1773. July 6. to half a year's rent to Mr. —, due the 25th March last, per rect.	5 10 0	1773. May 10. By cash from M—, per H—, - 2 10 0
Nov. 19, to ditto, due 29th Sept. last, to do. per rect.	5 10 0	13. By do. from F— O—, 3 15 0
To hearth-money allowed P—, payable 21st Jan.		July 10. By do. from M—, per L— J—, - 2 10 0
1773, - - - - -	0 4 0	13. By do. from Mrs. G—, 3 8 5
To do. allowed W—, pay- able same time - - -	0 2 0	15. By do. from W. M—, 2 5 0
To do. E. S—, payable do.	2 0 0	Sept. 28. By do. from P— W—, - - - - - 0 8 5½
To Receiver's fees of 30l. 3s. 11d. - - - - -	1 10 3	By do. from E. S—, 0 8 5½
	12 18 3	Oct. 4. By do. from S—, 0 7 0½
Balance due per W. C—, }		By do. from P—, - 0 14 3½
To Miss T—s, }		Nov. By do. from F. O—, 3 15 0
2-3ds, - £11 13 1½ }	17 9 8	Dec. 6. By do. from Mrs. G—, per Mr. W—, 5 7 3
To Miss W—'s 3d 5 16 6½ }		1774. Jan. 21. By do. from M—, per L. J—, 2 10 0
	£30 7 11	Feb. 2. By do. from W— M—, - - - - - 0 19 0
		By a pair of window sashes sold for - 0 4 0
		£ 30 7 11

LETTER XC.

Dublin, April the 4th, 1774.

MY dear S—, I received your's, which mentions very kindly your not troubling me to negotiate the money you were to draw for, but that you would take it up there. I must say, and tell your sister so, (for I am sure you act from her direction), that you should have known that I had the money in my hands before you drew for it. I told her there was ten guineas to be paid to regain the lease which Mr. — had of Stony-batter concern; that is now done, but it has cost 15 guineas, and was thought a necessary step to getting the concern out of the hands it is at present in, who are a nest of beggars, and setting it to improving tenants, which, it is to be hoped, will make it a better bargain than it yet has been, which I shall take pleasure in; but, my dear, is it not hard on me to be drawn upon for money I never saw, and is necessarily appropriated to another and necessary use*, especially when your sister knows she is exacting and draining every farthing from me that law will allow her to do, though I told her how I was pinched by L—d — with-holding from me so large a part of my income as really distresses me; she will say then, how came I to engage for Mr. W—? why truly I supposed my niece would have been satisfied with my security, and he promised to pay by two guineas a week, which promise had he kept, I could have made it easy to myself; but dear S—, let me know, what pretence your sister could have to satisfy herself, even as to the bare conscientiousness, not to send a receipt for the 30l.† which I sent in part of that 74l. 19s. 10d. due by Mr. W—: how ill a return for my intended friendliness, in sending it by Mr. L——'s bill instead of putting it into Mr. ——'s hands to remit (who I know little of) but

* — The £ 5 16 6½ you have kept back of our money, we cannot admit of: We have an acknowledgement in Mr. C——'s hand-writing, that so much money was due by him to us; and we never empowered him to lay out that money, or any other for us. We are perfectly satisfied, that it is not worth our while to expend money upon a thing, that, not only eats up all its own profits, but would consume our other income: notwithstanding, we long since requested of Mr. — to examine into Mr. C——'s right of disposing of our money, and as he has not told us that Mr. C—— had a right, we never can allow it.

S—— W—— to Mrs. K——, Jan. 14th, 1775.

† I lodged a receipt for that money in the hands of a friend, to send to my aunt, had we died before the affair was settled.

but he must have given me a receipt for it. I do think I am shamefully treated; but let her try where she can get a better friend. I see not how it can be for her interest to have forfeited me; she says debts and demands urged the payment of the bond in question: I hope not; for that would argue involved circumstances, which I pray God may not be the fate of any I love. Has your sister told your mother of the 50l. bond which I have been influenced to lend without her knowledge? the only thing of the kind I have done since I have been her agent. Assure your sister I will exact the payment from her immediately, if I have not my sister's consent to let the money remain with you, for the bond is in both your names; the 14th of January I told her I would have the money paid in three months; so I will, or the consent. Mr. — is on circuit. I had a note from him Saturday last, that if the amount of the bond was not immediately paid, he had given directions to have execution taken out: does she think I will be such a fool as to pay the 30l. over again? no; she must send a receipt for the part paid, before she gets the other, I assure her; then she draws for 3l. due by Mr. —, which he never pays 'till the year is due, which will not be 'till June; nobody asks for interest of 100l. 'till the year is out, besides he lives four miles off. Miss T— sent me word that she had consulted builders about that concern in Capel-street; and they tell her, if there was not a stick or stone on the premises, it is worth thirty shillings a foot, and that amounts to 70 odd pounds a year. I stared at her friend who came, and testified the greatest surprize, said I was sure the present tenant would have nothing to say to it. My sister gets but 60l. 5s. od. profit rent out of it, and can never be worth her while to come in at the sag end of any such exorbitant demand; perhaps she may come to better reason. S—, I esteem and regard you, and you used to be sensible I did so; I have had a good deal of trouble in transacting the business you both had to do, though neither of you has thought it worth your thanks. I question not but your sister and yourself (if she does) rejoices in the opportunity of putting your business where there may be a greater confidence. I heartily hope you will find the change to your advantage; the trouble I would have taken with pleasure; but the reproaches and ill manners was more than I thought I ought to bear. With best wishes for all your good. Your affectionate, &c. M. K.

I will not send back your bill protested; your sister had better direct Mr. — when she furnishes him with the receipt for the 30l. to allow 5l. 16s. 6½d. arrears, which are not to be had, and Mr. — 3l. os. od. for believe me, my dear, I owe no civilities. This goes by Mrs. —, whom I wish may have a propitious journey.

LETTER XCI.

Dublin, April 20th, 1774.

MY dear S—, I wrote you three weeks ago by poor Mrs. —, who went with sister W—d last year, and set out for Bath this, in hopes of better establishing her health; but was seized with illness, which paid her debt at Holyhead. I am heartily sorry for her, for she really was a worthy woman. You mentioned drawing on me for money out of Stony-batter; a farthing of it I never saw; and I told your sister that ten guineas was thought fit to be paid for the recovering D—'s lease, without which there could be none legally given, and the premises were wholly in the possession of little better than beggars, and all going to wreck; the lease is obtained, but Mr. C— declares could not do it under 15 guineas; so where am I to ask for money out of that concern? Mr. —'s you mention, which is never paid by him 'till the year is out, which will not be 'till June. "You say, it is the last time your money is to come through my hands." For some years taking what care I could of your business, suppose I should have had thanks, if your sister had supposed I deserved them; but in truth, her complaints and reproaches were so frequent, that I supposed she chose to change hands, expecting to have things done more to her mind by another. She will not get it done as cheap, it never having cost her even *thanks*; however, a greater share of satisfaction will over-pay that consideration easily. Mr. — sent me word near three weeks ago, that Mr. W—'s bond must be immediately discharged, or execution must be taken out. I told his clerk it should (Mr. — himself being on circuit at the time) but not 'till I had a regular discharge for the thirty pounds which I paid last January in part of it, and that your sister would not give me any acknowledgement for; *he* is not to blame, and it would be unjust that he should fall under any censure, so hope he will not. Has your sister told her mother of the 50l. bond? Be so good to let her know, that without having her consent, that it should lie, I must have it paid in, and more especially, if I do not transact the business. It's the only money of her's I ever lent, without letting her know in whose hands it was, nor do I approve of myself for beginning now: so must have it adjusted. I have this minute accepted your English bill 25l. 6s. Let me see who will do your business in this way, besides your fool of an aunt? and yet not worthy of the smallest word of acknowledgment. You might as well desired a bill from this side of what I had in my hands; wife folks don't trifle with friends, and I know not what good the forfeit can do. You used, my dear S—,

to think you had one in me; think so still; for while you do, I trust in God you will not be deceived. Your cousin D— takes this letter part of the way, is going into the army, and is advised that London is the best place to procure his colours; a sober good lad; you will join your good wishes to mine, for his success. I am certain Mrs — is to be married in a few days to Archdeacon —. I have not met any thing a great while which gives me more pleasure. He has five children, but all are provided for; a man of exceeding good character, and well esteemed, with a good income, which, I think, she will become exceedingly. Miss — is to live with them. I hope to hear my sister and your's are well. My love and good wishes attends. Believe me to be affectionately and sincerely your's,
M. K.

Your cousin M— desires her love to you all.

D. T— has had a severe cold, and has been much in the country. Did I tell you Miss T— sent a friend to let me know she had been consulting builders, who tells her, if there was neither stick or stone on the premises in Capel-street, that the ground is worth thirty shillings a foot, which comes to above 70l. per year; the profit rent is but 61l. a year. "I said it was an amazing price, that I was sure my friend must think it most unreasonable, but would let her know." I have just received your's of April the 13th: if Miss W— chuses to consider, that it is her aunt, her elder, and that decency demands some propriety of conduct, she need not be in a hurry for an agent, nor could I give up securities in my hands 'till the 50l. bond is paid. I have no suspicions, but cannot consent to be so bad an agent for my sister, as that would make me, especially as I lent the money without consulting her*. As to either of you coming to Ireland, to look out for an agent, is an expence I think your principal will not bear; beware of getting yourselves involved. Let me know in a proper civilized manner, what you want to have done, and if I can satisfy you, shall have pleasure in doing it. Adieu.

LETTER

* I do not believe my aunt ever consulted my mother about putting our her money, but told her afterwards in whose hands she had placed it.

L E T T E R X C I I.

MADAM,

April 26th, 1774.

WE promised as soon as we received an answer from cousin R. T—, that we would relieve you from the burthen of our affairs. We received an answer last post; and now in performance of our promise, request you will immediately deliver up to counselr — (who we flatter ourselves will be kind enough to receive and keep them, until we can determine how to dispose of them) the letter of attorney we gave you, it being no longer in force; the lease of Marlborough-street concern; my uncle's note; and all the other papers of our's in your hands. We write to Mr. — to apprize him of it, and to apologize for the liberty we have taken with him. We have told my mother of the 50l. we have borrowed of her money: she is to determine when we are to pay it in: whenever she judges it most for her advantage, we are ready to do it.

We heartily thank you for all your favours, and are

MADAM,

Your dutiful and (we hope)
not unworthy nieces,

M. W—,

S. W—.

L E T T E R X C I I I.

* MY dear S—, among other unfathomable things in miss W—'s conduct, I must ask why I was put to 10d. expence† for no other cause but to bid me deliver up the letter of attorney, &c. Am I to go after Mr. —? or where was the necessity to be in such a hurry as that writing by post must be the thing? She had drained me sufficiently before, and let her have the pleasure to know, I have never been put to such difficulties for money at any time of my life as at present, when unfortunately she had power, and did exert it to my considerable distress; however,
(thank

* This letter would not have been introduced, as it is not immediately directed to me, but that it was necessary to render my answer intelligible. — There are some few more brought in for the same purpose; or to do justice either to my aunt or myself,

† See Letter XI.

(thank God) the money is paid; 'ere yesterday I put into Mr. —'s hands 50l. 8s. 9d. with 30l. paid last January, was principal, interest, and costs. I must say it hurt me sorely, when I saw the bond was in your name only;* but I forgive you. God forbid I should not forgive all; however relationship cannot be an equal tie to good-natured friendliness. Pray does Miss W— think I shall give up the securities of her's and your's which I have in my hands, 'till I am reimbursed the money she thought fit to draw upon me for out of Stony-batter,† which I never saw, and the half year of Mr. —'s, which won't be paid 'till the latter end of summer, she knew was never paid but yearly.‡ If I had sent her bill back protested, I had served her right. Pray how am I to be paid? My health has been very indifferent this winter past. Country air is prescribed for me. I declare I know not how to compass it, my money matters are so narrow. Since December was a twelve-month I have been totally kept out of 169l. 15s. a year by L—d ——. I flattered myself I should have had some tenderness|| from my niece, and I will still think I should from you: it is otherwise determined, and much good may do you with it: it would be satisfactory and pleasant to know what letters you receive from us. I wrote by poor Mrs. —; that you could not have got. I wrote by your cousin D—; did you get that? I told you the message from Miss T—, that she was told by builders she had consulted, that if there was no materials on the premises, the ground is worth 30 shillings a foot, and that comes higher than the whole profit rent. Please to tell Miss W—, I must have my sister's consent under her hand, in regard to that fifty pounds. I shan't be so bad an agent to her to lend out her money without acquainting her with whom it is, and also to have her approbation before I give up the securities which I have in my hands, belonging to those to whom the money is lent; it has been your sister's way a long time to answer what part of my letters she chose, and leave the rest unanswered¶. I hope my sister is pretty well. My love to her, and believe me your sincerely affectionate, &c.

May the 11th, 1774. Dublin.

M. K.

Please

* My sister never saw that bond. Mr. H— was employed to recover the money from Mr. W—, and took his bond for it, payable in three months.

† £ 5 16 6½. See Mr. C—'s account.

‡ See Letter XCIV.

|| Our demand was upon Mr. W—, not my aunt.

¶ See Letter XCVI.

Please to let me hear when you have got the money paid to Mr. ——. Your sister, in an account she drew up of expences you had been at one article, is compelled to borrow through Mr. W— 50l. os. od. Let her pay it now that his bond is discharged. She charges also 22l. 15s. which is part of the 50l.* She charges rent, which ought to have been received out of Stony-batter about 18l. that she never got, so could not have lost.

LETTER CXIV.

MADAM,

WE have not heard from Mr. — these five months, tho' we have wrote repeatedly to him; and until we do, can only say, that as he was the person employed by us, it is his business, we apprehend, to let us know what he has done. We received from Mr. — the 18th of May 1771, £ 3 0 0 for half a year, £ 3 0 0 the following November, and £ 3 0 0 due the May following, I received when in Dublin: however, if you have not received the £ 3 0 0 due last November, which we took up, it shall be repaid; as also £ 2 0 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ which I find by the ballance of accounts between us, we have received more than our own money; and 10d. for my letter, which, as it was about our business, I am very willing to be at the expence of. Any other just claim you may have upon us, we will readily discharge; but as to the money you speak of, out of Stony-batter, Mr. C— acknowledged in his account, that he had so much money of our's in his hands; and I dare say, you need only to demand it of him, to be reimbursed. And now, I hope, you have no longer any objection to giving up our papers. I am very sorry you have reason to complain of your health; but hope the summer will retrieve it. I am sorry too, you have cause to complain of the situation of your affairs; notwithstanding, cannot allow, that I have been the least necessary to what is displeasing in them. If Miss T— will not abate of the terms you mention, I should suppose it were proper to have it calculated; in what proportion the tenants rents must be raised, in order to our having a reasonable profit upon the concern: and when that is estimated, to inquire
of

* I paid that £ 22 15 to Mr. W—d, out of the 50l. my aunt lent us of my mother's money.

of them, whether they are willing to submit to such an advance of rent for a renewal of their leases, as it will not be in our power to renew without.

I am much obliged to you for your advice, but flatter myself, I do not want prompting to pay my debts, whenever I have the power. I desired Mr C— to let you know, that we received two letters of your's from Chester. My mother is pretty well: if you please to apply to her about the 50l. we borrowed of her money, I dare answer for it, she will satisfy you.

May 23d, 1774.

M. W.

LETTER CXV.

Sept. the 8th, 1774.

YOU see Miss M. W—, though you carried with so *high a hand to me, at my not immediately complying with your desire to borrow your mother's money, I was right in every part but lending of it. I have a rebuke from my sister: it is indeed in gentle and gentlewoman-like terms, not in such rough stile as I have had from quarters where I never deserved it. Here I justly dot, and must agree with my sister, "that she has cause to complain." She says she refused lending it to you,† and justly argues, if you can't live on your present income, what will you do when it is lessened, and desires I will admit of no such incroachments again, says you talked of August for a ||settlement to be made, which I suppose is meant paying the money, and I shall receive it willingly. By the manner of wording the ¶receipts (you have lately given)

O

for

* See Letter LXII.

† We gave our joint bond for it, and pay the highest legal interest.

‡ My mother could not say so, for we never asked her to lend it to us.

|| I did not see my mother's letter, and do not comprehend the meaning of this.

¶ Received from Mrs. M— K—, the sum of five pounds, in part of interest for one thousand pounds settled upon Mrs. M— W— for her life, by the executors of the late Alderman N— K—, now out at 6 per cent.

the

17

to be accounted for to Mrs. M— W—, by

M— W—.

S— W—.

for the annuity off your mother's income, seems to argue a mistake, as if your demand was a matter of right, and not through our indulgence; the *original agreement which the executors of my father made, to pay sister W— fifty pounds a year during her natural life, has not bound them to any further obligation; therefore if you chuse to receive that money, send me hereafter such a receipt as was originally given, or I shall stop; a farthing of interest from a 1000 pounds, the interest of which has been appropriated hitherto, has not been got for near two years, and perhaps the whole security may fail; what is to be the consequence then? You are so good a lawyer, I would fain know. I received six pounds from Mr. —, three of which was due to me; that, with the five pounds receipt for June last, leaves me in your debt two pounds odd. Am I to give up my brother's note to you for 200l.? Whenever a qualified person calls on me and gives me a receipt for your few papers, you shall be gratified undoubtedly by my giving them up. I never did or would have taken any of your matters upon me, but in hopes of doing you service; what return I had, you know as well as myself. I dare say Miss T— means to keep that concern in her own hands. I don't think my sister has the least probability of encouragement for renewing; however thinks it may be very well to proceed as you mention, and try if the tenants will raise their rents, so as to make the renewal worth while: it is but an uneasy situation to be at the sag end of a very high rent, little profit, and this to be gathered from different hands, all at a strain'd rent. I intend going to town in few days, and will consult some who are reckoned good calculators. I spoke to Mr. C —, one of the last times I was in town: he said he was doing all he could; that as the lease is now procured; he hoped the concern would be set to more advantage, and the nest of beggars and insolvents got out, from many of which he could not get a half-

* It is agreed this 29th of April, 1757, by us the subscribing persons, residuary legatees of the late Alderman N— K—, that the interest of one thousand pounds, part of the residue of his fortune, shall be paid to Our Sister Mrs. M— W—, during her life, and at her death, shall be divided among Us in the proportion appointed by the will of the said Alderman K—.

J— K—,
M— K—,
M— W—d,
E— W—d.

† Received from Mrs. M— K—, the sum of five pounds, to be accounted for to Mrs. M— W—, by

M— W—,
S— W—.

a halfpenny : instead of five pounds in his hands,* there was twelve or fifteen guineas to pay for recovering the lease. I hope it will answer soon as was the intention of the givers. And now a word to S—. &c. M. K.

LETTER XCVI.

MADAM,

THE bearer is a person employed by our attorney ——— to receive all our papers from you, and to give proper acknowledgements for such as he receives.

It had long appeared obvious to me, (but that I would not give way to such a suggestion) that you have sought occasion to quarrel with me. I have done all in my power to avoid giving you occasion, by passing over unnoticed, the many bitter and provoking taunts, which, from time to time, your letters have contained. I have laboured to convince you of the rectitude, both of my intentions and conduct, to no purpose : Your will opposed your conviction : or, at least, the partiality to self, natural to mankind, inclined me to think so. I am now satisfied that it is impossible for me to gain your good opinion ; but that I may be justified in the eyes of the world, or made sensible that your condemnation of me is just, I will submit myself to its censures, by publishing all the letters which have passed between us, without altering a single syllable ; and, if the world condemns me, (as I know not but it will) I shall stand self-condemned.

I am aware of the many objections which may be made to such a step. You will tell me that I am a little insignificant person, scarce known in the world ; that instead of gaining countenance or approbation, I shall only expose myself to scorn and ridicule ; and that my whole yearly income will be insufficient to defray the charge of printing them : but all these shall not deter me from it : and whatever happens, I trust, God and a good conscience will support me.

Mrs. ———, jun. gave us pleasure by telling us that your health was re-established, and that you were in very good spirits.

24th Sept. 1774.

M. W.

O 2

LETTER

* See Mr. C——'s account. Note 2d, Letter LXXXIX.

LETTER XCVII.

DEAR S—,

Dublin, Dec. the 5th, 1774.

THIS giving up my trust has been a tedious affair. Mr. — called upon me, I believe two months ago: I was just then come from the country, and had not gathered the papers, and he was to call in two or three days; he was afterwards in the country, and then term engaged him; so that he was not put in possession till Wednesday last. I then got his receipt for the lease of Marlborough-street, a bond for one hundred pounds due to you by Mr. —, and a promissory note of my brother K—'s to Miss M— for 200l. and I heartily wish your sister may have more satisfaction in his method of doing your business than mine, though done with the best intention for it, was ever able to produce. I apprehend I shall meet, and perhaps I may deserve reproach for what gives me pleasure however, that I have to tell you, that on looking the other day among my brother's leases and parchments for one belonging to Mrs C—, I found those you left undoubtedly with me relative to *Capel-street: there are the original making the concern over to your grandfather: but from the tenants to your father, or his to them, or to my sister but M' —'s, there is not any; there are what answers to a list which you left among other papers, which I have. In the last draft you drew on me, you may remember part of it was £ 5 16 6 which Mr. C— had put down in his account as arrears due from the tenants to you,† and if necessary expences had not run away with it, he, I dare say, would have paid; I never handled a penny of it; there was also £ 3 0 0 which was not received then from Mr. —, which made you in my debt £ 8 16 6; Mr. — paid £ 6 0 0 last summer; and your receipt for June last's annuity, without receiving it, was five pounds, which made

	£ 11 0 0
Deducted, being due to me	- 8 16 6

Remained due you	- 2 3 6
------------------	---------

out of which I paid Mr. D— for drawing the assignment of Stony-batter to you and your sister	- £ 1 14 1½
--	-------------

Balance due to you	- 0 9 5
--------------------	---------

which I paid to Mr. — and gave him Mr. D—'s receipt for your

* See Letter XXXVIII.

† See Mr. C—'s account.

your satisfaction. I hear there is not the same harmony in Bath since the New Rooms have taken place; it is a pity that it should be hurt. I don't how to address my cousin M—, or make myself agreeable to her in any shape: in her last she tells me "she finds I am determined to quarrel with her." I declare it is the first I heard of it: she meant to threaten me, no doubt, in saying "she positively would print my letters." A kind intention accompanied all I wrote to her; and if I erred, as who does not sometimes, I should hope the mistakes of friends would, from the good-natured hand, have a curtain drawn over them, rather than publish them to the world. Our family th^{us} God heretofore have had the character of discretion, and rather chusing shade and passing quietly, than getting into glare, which generally brings a laugh and entertains the idle giddy multitude. Your sister must chuse which class she likes; and I only recommend it to her, to take care to chuse that most commendable. I heartily wish you the compliments of the season, and with your cousin, subscribe myself affectionately your's,

M. K.

I don't doubt but Mrs. — would inclose a letter now and then, if you would ask her. My compliments to her and Mrs. —, sen.

L E T T E R CXVIII.

M— and S— W—s duty to Mrs. K—, they would have paid their respects to her, had not † Miss W—d, by endeavouring to lay them under restrictions, given them room to suppose that it could not be agreeable.

October 16th.

L E T T E R

* The two words which are imperfect, were under the seal, and tore in opening the letter.

† Miss W—d, previous to Mrs. K— and her coming here, wrote to a lady, desiring her to tell me, not to touch upon disagreeable subjects: and when they came, she endeavoured to extort a promise from me, that I would not speak of business to my aunt. I thought such an injunction very unreasonable (my aunt having all my mother's affairs in her hands, and not having wrote a line to either of us for above nine months) and refused to comply; upon which she said, "Then you must not meet."

LETTER XCIX.

MISS W—s are certainly at liberty to act as they please. Mrs. K— regrets much not having seen Mrs. W—, though lame would have called, did she not hear what temper Miss W—s are in, and knew her state of health would not bear it, though her own heart testifies that she has acted with integrity and attention to the affairs of mother and daughters; but when folks chuse to be out of humour, without cause, they must be left to themselves. Mrs. K— wishes to know when she can see Mrs. W—, without hurrying her from not knowing she is here.

October the 16th.

LETTER C.

M— and S— W—s duty to Mrs K—; they have never sought to engage Mrs. W— in their quarrel. She is totally ignorant of it, and they think it a pity to disturb her peace, by the knowledge of what is unpleasing. Mrs. W— sends her love; she is sorry Mrs. K— is not well, and will be very glad to see her whenever it is agreeable to her.

October 16th.

LETTER CI.

M. W—'s duty to Mrs. K—, and requests she will be so obliging to let her know, what she has done with regard to Capel-street concern? what Miss T— asked for the renewal? and, how much Mrs. K— offered? &c. M. W— hopes Mrs. K— will not take amiss this early application, as she must be sensible, that the renewal is of the utmost importance to Mrs. W—; and that any loss of time may be attended with bad consequences. She requests an immediate answer, being about to write to Mr.

October 17th.

LETTER

LETTER CII.

MRS. K—'s compliments to Miss W—, Miss T— was not in Ireland when she left it, and is sure Miss W— was told at the time, what passed between Mrs. K— and Miss T—: she was offered 300l. for the renewal, or what was adequate by raising the G. rent, which would have been £ 30 10 0 a year, instead of £ 12 10. She wrote a scrawl to me in answer, that she was employing builders to estimate the value; that she did not want money; but wished to better her income. She afterwards sent Mrs. H—s, with whom she lodged, who said Miss T— was told by those she employed, that the renewal must be at seventy pounds a year: the proposal did surprize, the whole income being £ 82 15 0, and the tenement so very old; I told her that did not sound like being in earnest, and surely it appears that the tenement should be very stout and strong, and likely to improve, where the tenant would engage for so high a rent for £ 12 15 0 at the tail of every thing. I have since spoke to Mr. S—, who is her agent; he said he thought she would keep it in her own hands; but she being in England and determined not to be in a hurry, could not say: it was urged, that the present tenant would be much more for her advantage than any other, and would do every thing that could be thought equal and reasonable. Its well known, there is no forcing people to part with their own, unless they like it. Mr. N— got all the leases and papers relative to this concern, a few days before I left home; he said you desired I should give them.

Bath, Oct. the 18th, 1775.

It was also urged, that the concern was becoming ruinous, and must be rebuilt, otherwise would scarcely last the term: she made answer, that she was told, if there was neither stick or stone, it ought to bring what is before mentioned.

Mrs. K— gave the family's deed* of conveyance of Black-horse-lane, or Stony-batter, to Mr. ———, when she gave up the other papers belonging to Miss W—s, which she had.

Could

* ——— Mrs K— is mistaken in saying she gave up the deed of conveyance of Stony-batter to my son; she gave him a memorial of it, unsigned, which I suppose was left, as containing the purport of the deed, for your satisfaction: This I have.

Mr. ———'s letter, Nov. 3d, 1775.

Mr.

Could the renewal of Capel-street be obtained on reasonable terms, it would be very desirable no doubt; it is also to be considered, (if it cannot be obtained by giving what is the real value of it, and not more), that Mrs. W— has saved out of the income of it, &c. 600l. and 50 pounds, which brings in interest, which, though not equal, will be a great help to her *original income; and it must be further observed, the offer I spoke of, was made two years or more ago; the interest of that money must be calculated and added to the price of renewal, from that time to seven years, I think it is, from next May to the expiration of the lease.

LETTER CIII.

M. W—'s duty to Mrs. K—, and requests to know, whether there has not been any thing done within this twelve-month requisite to the procuring a new lease of Capel-street concern? ~~She~~ also begs to know, when the ground rent was paid?

October 20th.

LETTER CIV.

Nothing done in regard to the renewal of Capel-street, but speaking to Mr. S—, as was before mentioned. Mrs. K— thinks there was a year's ground rent due last March the 25th.

October the 20th.

LETTER

Mr. C— had sent us a copy of the deed, inclosed in his letter 21st April, 1774.

See letter XCVII.

DEAR MADAM,

Jan. 14th, 1775.

I received your's of Dec. 15th, in which you say, you have given up the lease of Marlborough-street concern, Mr. ———'s bond for one hundred pounds, and my uncle's promissory note to my sifter for 200l. to Mr. ———. I beg to know, why the deed of conveyance of Stony-batter, was not delivered up also? &c.

S— W— to Mrs. K—.

* The income arising out of Capel-street concern, was my mother's original income: that concern being settled upon her, by my father, at her marriage.

LETTER CV.

M. W—'s duty to Mrs. K—, and requests to know who she has employed to transact the business necessary to be done, in order to the obtaining a lease in reversion of Capel-street concern from Miss T—?

October 25th.

LETTER CVI.

MRS. K—'s compliments to Miss W—, she expects (please God) to be in Ireland in *April, or there about, and thinks nothing can be settled in point of renewal before that time; should Miss T— be brought to reason, which, in Mrs. K—'s opinion, she has not yet been, Mrs. K— could not authorize any one without Mrs. W—'s approbation. Mrs. K— knew that was to be done here, if necessary to give Mrs. W— the trouble, which Mrs. K— was unwilling to do wantonly, from Miss W—'s frequent hints at the inconvenience which attended having her disturbed by business.

October the 25th, 1775.

LETTER CVII.

MRS. M. W-----'s compliments to Miss W---d, she wants to know every thing relative to her mother's affairs, as well as her own. Such a desire, she is certain, is not inconsistent with any law, divine or human; and whenever she shall think fit to apply to the Lord Chancellor, is sure she must obtain it. She is sorry to be obliged to say, that Mrs. K--- has treated Mrs. W----- as if she was incapable of judging for herself; her daughters, as if they were children or idiots. If Miss W---d thinks any good can be produced by talking over their affairs, Miss W---s will be at home whenever she pleases to appoint. At Miss -----'s earnest solicitation, the advertising of the publication is suspended

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until

* Mrs. K— still at Bath, August 21st, 1776.

until next Monday, then it shall be printed in the Journal, and the publication follow immediately; as Miss W----- cannot suffer it to engross any more of her time.

Nov. 1st, 1775.

LETTER CVIII.

MISS W---d's compliments to Miss W-----, she was just going out yesterday when she received her letter, or would have answered it immediately.

If one o'clock be a convenient hour, Miss W---d will wait on Miss W—, to talk over matters; she would be inexpressibly happy to have it in her power, by removing any misunderstandings between so near relations, to establish that harmony which must conduce to the happiness and credit of all parties.

Nov. the 2^d.

LETTER CIX.

*MRS. K--- thinks it incumbent on her, from the relation she stands in to Miss W---, to prevent, if possible, her exposing herself so exceedingly, as the publishing family letters, in the eyes of the judicious, must make her appear, will therefore expostulate calmly, and ask her what good to any body can it produce?

She is warm against Mrs. K--- to an amazing degree, charges her with want of integrity in regard to her mother's affairs, talks of application to the Lord Chancellor,—was that ever done when the party accused has exact and honest account†, when the effects are to the fore‡, and where nothing has been transacted in the money

* Along with this letter my aunt sent a note to my mother, acquainting her, that she would call on her the next day at one o'clock; but at the time appointed, sent an excuse.

† They may be very exact, but we never saw them.

‡ My aunt says, they are to the fore, and it would be impolite to call in question what she says; but we are totally ignorant.

money way without Mrs. W. knowing of it.* When Miss W— was in Ireland, Mrs. K—, at her desire, shewed her the securities, shewed her her mother's account book; and puts it to Miss W. in the most solemn way, whether Mrs. K— did not shew her also the security for 500l. my brother owes, and give her every satisfaction in her power. My conscience tells me, that I did, and think I am severely treated by the doubt; M. W. charges Mrs. K. with treating Mrs. W. as if incapable of judging for herself. To prove the contrary, Mrs. K. is come to a resolution to make Mrs. W. acquainted with all proceedings, and particularly M. W. intention to publish our little family matters, and if Mrs. W. approves of it, in the name of goodness let her do it; but Mrs. K. cannot answer to herself, the effect so strange and unnatural a step might have upon Mrs. W. were the work to fall into her hands accidentally.—I have hopes you will see this in the light it strikes me, and see the propriety of acquainting her, or suspending the design of printing. You have been a good daughter; consider the matter well; and whethert her unhappy maladies should be produced to the public, and the effects of them; for sure it will be the height of injustice to print partially; if one word is to be published, one word should not be left out. Supposing she should not appear, sure I am it will distress her, that what belongs to her, should act so inconsistently; it is on your account I have taken the resolution; and positively if it is to be done, she shall know it; so let me know how I am to steer? I think the step necessary, and will do it.

Nov. the 3d, 1775.

L E T T E R C X.

MRS. K—'s warmth convinces M. W— more than ever, of the necessity of the publication. She is not a child, and knows her mother does not expect implicit obedience from her; but should Mrs. W— lay her commands on M. W—, or even turn her out of

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doors,

* My mother was so far from knowing all that was transacted, that when she inquired of my aunt about the renewal of Capel-street concern, she was not answered.

† See Letter CXX.

I am surprized my aunt should use this argument at the time she disputed our right to inquire into my mother's affairs. Had my mother been well, I should, probably, never have been under the necessity of having recourse to such measures.

doors, M. W. will still persevere; satisfied that she acts from a virtuous principle. Mrs. K— shewed Miss W— two bonds, one from ———, Esq; to M. W— for £200; the other from ——— and son, to W—, widow, for £300; and told her one day when she was waiting on Mrs. K— at Jarvis-street, and the book lay on the table, that she might amuse herself with looking over her mother's accounts; but denies Mrs. K—'s having shewn Mr. K—'s note to Mrs. W— for £500; as M. W— found it herself in her mother's desk, and lodged it in Mrs. K—'s hands. Mrs. K— has purposely omitted saying any thing of Capel-street concern; the immediate cause of contention between them.

Nov. 3^d, 1775.

LETTER CXI.

IF poor human nature was as strong as a Hercules, for ever poring over these matters of business, without an atom of confidence in friends, *Conscience*, *Honor* or *Integrity*, who acts for us, must overset, and occasion continual confusion, and an adieu to any thing like happiness. Mrs. K--- “does not purposely omit saying any thing of Capel-street concern;” but indeed she supposed, that if M. W--- was not determined not to be convinced in regard to the negotiations there, that neither reason nor conscience could ask more than M. W---d said* and Mrs. K--- has wrote, is not Miss W. free to write to Miss T---, to Mr. S---, (he is to be directed to at the Custom-house, Dublin,) and you may tell him that the G. rent which is due, he will be paid by calling on Mrs. W---d, Stafford-street. You say this is the immediate cause of contention. Let me request you to take these methods of clearing it, since you will not credit me, before you take a step which undoubtedly is most injurious in your intention, as the publication of M. K--- and M. W---'s letters cannot afford amusement to the world, but to laugh at their being put in their way: as to apprehensions of the printing of them hurting Mrs. K--- character, she is entirely composed; grieves at the thought that Mrs. W. may be hurt by them; and grieves that Mrs. K--- had a niece who would neither open her eyes to reason or good-nature. The few in the world who may read those letters, will certainly condemn Mrs. K. as an incorrect or careless writer. She avers, if the letters

* Miss W—d said, she did not know; could not answer for any body but herself; &c. So that we parted as we met.

letters are honestly* given, there cannot be the most minute outlines of a bad heart, or the least unfriendly intention, but the reverse, a constant desire to render Miss W—s every good office; this positive truth is Mrs. K. support; and once for all, must say, she has now composed herself, and fairly puts the Press, and the truths produced from it, to defiance.

Bath, Nov the 4th, 1775.

There was a year's G. rent due of Capel-street last 25th of March, which Mr. S--- knew it was but call for and have, and that is good pay† the world over.

L E T T E R CXII.

MISS W— requests to know of Mrs. K—, what term of years Mrs. W— was to have of the premisses in Capel-street, for the purchase money Miss T— asked? and who it was that wanted to purchase Miss T—'s interest in that concern, when she refused to sell it?|| When Miss W— saw Miss T— in Dublin, Miss T— said, that she must consult her uncle; and offered to write to Miss W— at Bath, to let her know the result. Miss W— not questioning Mrs. K—'s friendship, declined giving her that trouble; telling her, that her aunt K— was her mother's attorney, was to transact the renewal for her, and would let them know Miss T—'s terms. Miss W— cannot see any want of confidence in this.

Nov. 4th, 1775.

L E T T E R CXIII.

TO the best of Mrs. K—'s memory, Miss T— has 200 or more years of Capel-street, and it is supposed that the renewer is to have the whole term,‡ unless objected by the landlord. In answer to Miss W—, Mrs. K— never knew, or heard, that Miss T—
asked

* Any person disposed to be at the trouble of proving the authenticity of these letters, may see the originals, by applying to the Printer.

† When my mother was in Ireland, she always paid the ground-rent as soon as it was due.

|| Miss W—d said so.

‡ The reason, I thought, was now obvious, why Miss T—'s terms were so high. I could not suppose, my aunt had been very solicitous to promote
our

asked any sum for renewal: on the contrary, said to Mrs. K. and wrote to the same purpose, "that she did not want money, but wished to increase her income." Mrs. K. thinks she sees right; but presumes she don't comprehend M. W. in her next question, "who it was that wanted to purchase Miss T. interest in that concern, when she refused to sell it." Mrs. K. knows of no offers to purchase M. T. concern, nor ever heard, nor had the smallest mistrust that any other did but Mrs. K. in trust for Mrs. W—, and her daughters. M. T. proposal in answer to my having waited on her and writing to her, appeared so unreasonable to all who heard it, that if she had not said she was un-determined as to parting with it, the sum she mentioned to be paid yearly was tantamount to declaring it, as Mrs. K. thought: this is all she knows of it. M. W. may be better informed by applying to the landlord and agent both, if she thinks it will satisfy her: it is well worth the trouble. M. W. had no cause to doubt Mrs. K. friendship, but could not engage M. T. to part with her property against her own inclination.

November the 5th.

L E T T E R CXIV.

MISS W—'s duty to Mrs. K—; she will write to Miss T— this night, and hopes every thing will shortly be settled in such a manner, as will establish lasting harmony. She begs Mrs. K— will give orders to have the ground rent paid immediately, as she is informed it ought to be paid punctually.

Nov. 6th.

LETTER

our interest in that concern, when she was treating for a lease of more than 200 years. Common sense dictated, that so long a lease was not the eligible thing for us. However, though I found that the affair had not been transacted altogether as I should have chose, I was inclined to hope, there might be a possibility of its being adjusted in such a manner as would reconcile all differences.

In 1772, when I was in Dublin, my aunt said, she was thinking, that if they could get a lease of 60 years for us, it would be doing very well: and Mr. R. T—s replied, We must do the best we can for her.

LETTER CXV.

M. and S. W—'s duty to Mrs. K—, and requests to know, to whom* they are to apply for the five pounds they receive half yearly of their mother's money, due this day? They request Miss W—d will, when she writes to Ireland, give their love to her sister —, and assure her, that they will be very glad to hear from her. They intended making this request the night they saw Miss W—d; it afterwards slipped their memory.

Dec. 14th, 1775.

LETTER CXVI.

IT being more convenient, as Mrs. K— supposes, to Miss M. and S. W— to receive the five pounds, the half year's annuity, here, than to send for it; if they will furnish Mrs. K— with a receipt, such as was originally given, (received so much to such a time, for which they are accountable to their mother), Mrs. K— will pay it. She mentions this, as she don't like innovations: incloses a bill for Mrs. W—, which Mrs. K— begs Miss W— to cut off and give to her with with her love, and begs the favour of a receipt; hopes she is well. Miss W— may peruse what N— W—d writes in regard to the renewal, would be very glad it could be obtained; but we well know that when profitable leases do come near a conclusion, the owner knows better things than to renew without full value.

Mrs. K— would be pleased to hear if Miss T— has answered Miss W— letter, begs she will send N— W—d's back.

Dec. the 15th.

LETTER CXVII.

MISS W—'s duty to Mrs. K—; she never expected that Miss T— would grant Mrs. W— a new lease of her concern, under the value of it. Begs leave to remind Mrs. K—, that when her uncle (Mr. K—) was here, he advised her never to give a receipt

* This was the second time I essayed to find out in whose hands my aunt had left my mother's affairs: I have tried twice since, with as little success.

receipt for money, without specifying upon what account it was received. When they receive the money they will give such a receipt for it, as they think proper. Miss W— has heard from Miss T—.

We gave the bill for 50l. to my mother.

Dec. 15th.

L E T T E R CXVIII.

MISS W—'s compliments to Miss W—d ; she thinks it right to acquaint her, (that if she judges it proper, she may inform Mrs. K—) that Miss W— will read Mrs. K—'s letters and her own, to Mrs. — this evening.

Jan. 2d, 1776.

L E T T E R CXIX.

MISS W— would be glad to know, whether it is true, that Mrs. K— attempted to corrupt Miss T—'s agent? and, what bribe* she offered to him, in order to procure a good bargain?

Jan. 6th, 1776.

L E T T E R CXX.

MADAM,

YOUR not understanding the note, that I wrote in the plainest, most explicit terms ; can it be imputed to any other, than an affected ignorance? When I was told you had attempted to draw Miss T—'s agent from the fidelity he owed her, and had offered him a reward to procure a good bargain;† my reply was, You were utterly incapable of such a conduct. The answer you sent, leaves me in doubt, whether I was not mistaken. Did you act for my mother, when you exposed her to undeserved censure, and injured

* Miss T— made this a plea for not treating with us, until she was convinced that we were not concerned in it. I feared, therefore, had I wrote in softer terms, it might be misconstrued into approving of such a proceeding.

† Miss T—'s letter dated Nov. 11th, 1775.

injured her interest? Miss —, out of friendship to me, condescends to be the bearer of this. The advertisement of the publication, to be inserted in Thursday's paper, lies upon the table, until her return. If you are still determined to persevere in arrogating to yourself a power, that cannot be supported by any law, divine or human, *of keeping us in ignorance of ALL, or ANY THING, relative to my mother's or our own affairs*, I shall need no apology: the worthy and judicious part of the world will be ready to allow, that every thing I can do, which is honest—to defend a mother's just rights to her, is not only excusable, but laudable.

I am,

MADAM,

Your Niece,

M— W—.

Jan. 9th, 1776.

LETTER CXXI.

MR. W—d has wrote Mrs. K— word, that if it be convenient to her, he supposes it will to Miss W—s, that she should if she can spare it, advance cash to pay them the difference, £4 0 8 having been paid by Mr. W—d to Mr. —; and £7 19 4 being still due of £12, half a year's interest which Mr. W—d pays for Mr. K— to Miss W—s, when they please to send a receipt; agreeable to this account, Mrs. K— will pay it, the receipt for the money to September last.

Feb. the 14th.

LETTER CXXII.

MISS W—s duty to Mrs. K—; they are much obliged to her for offering to pay the interest money due to them from Mr. K—: but as Mr. K— told Miss W— six months ago, that he would pay in her principal money; and she does not know how soon she may receive an account of its being paid, she supposes, the interest due will be discharged at the same time.

Feb. 14th, 1776.

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LETTER

L E T T E R CXXIII.

MADAM,

I Am just now informed, by a lawyer of undoubted integrity, that a note of hand is no longer binding than while the person lives who gave it: his heirs are not bound by it. I could not have supposed, my mother's own brother would have treated her in such a manner. If you do not immediately write to Mr. K—, either to pay in the £500 of my mother's money in his hands, or to give proper security for it, I will acquaint my mother, what sort of friends she has in her brother and sister, that she may take care of herself.

I am, &c.

Feb. 24th, 1776.

M. W.

L E T T E R CXXIV.

MRS. K— thinks Miss W—'s lawyer of integrity, if acquainted with all circumstances, shewed very little judgment, in not finding out that the claim of legatees is under the will of the person from whom the legacy comes, and while there is no receipt* of the legatees, they have still a claim: if she don't think this law, nor that justice is intended *her mother, from my brother and her's*, Miss W. is surely at liberty to advertise her mother of it, and to write herself, for Mrs. K— shan't trouble herself; would advise Miss W. to write in rather less imperious terms, if she supposes Mr. K— her uncle.

Feb. the 26th.

L E T T E R CXXV.

MISS W—s were sensible that their grandfather K—'s will was Mrs. W—'s security for the money he left her, until she took Mr. K—'s note for it; but then, it ceased to be so; and Mrs. W— has now no other security for that money, but Mr. K—'s note

* The late Mr. M— W—d, one of the executors, made my mother and I give receipts, at the time he gave us my uncle K—'s notes for 700l. the legacies left us by my grandfather K—.

note of hand. As Mrs. W— relies on Mrs. K—, as to the management of her affairs, Miss W—s expect that Mrs. K— will take the same care of that money, as she did of the £200 that was in *Mr. ———'s hand.

Feb. 26th, 1776.

LETTER CXXVI.

MISS W— is sorry she betrayed so much intemperance when Mrs. K— was here to-day; confesses she was put quite beside herself, when Mrs. K— had innocently hazarded Miss W—'s life but two days ago, she should so soon run the risk of exposing it again. Miss W—s have returned Mrs. W—'s letter to her again.

Feb. 28th, 1776.

LETTER CXXVII.

MRS. K— desires to know of Miss W—'s, if she may be permitted to see Mrs. W— about twelve this day?

March the 9th.

LETTER CXXVIII.

† WHEN Mrs. K— was last with Mrs. W—, Mrs. K— received a paper from her and gave her another, without Miss W—s seeing the contents of either. Mrs. K— too made mischief between Mrs. W— and her daughters, and a reconciliation between them has but just taken place. Miss W—s therefore cannot suffer Mrs. K— to come to Mrs. W— disturbing her peace and their own. If Mrs. K— persists, still, in endeavouring to get

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Mrs.

* See Letter LVIII.

† During my aunt's absence, my mother had been preparing a letter of attorney. We consulted a person of skill, who told us, it was not right to give a new power of attorney, until my aunt had given in her accounts. Fearing we should not have influence enough to prevent it, and knowing that we should disoblige my mother by presuming to oppose her will; we were distressed at hearing of my aunt's return, which occasioned our writing with so much warmth.

Mrs. W— to sign any paper whatsoever, they solemnly declare, they will immediately have a petition drawn up, and presented to the Lord Chancellor.

They will give no letters nor papers to Mrs. W— without knowing the contents.

5th April, 1776.

LETTER CXXIX.

SO long ago as the 5th instant, did Mrs. K— receive a most imperious written message, which contains most egregious falsehoods, and yet it is not 'till now answered. Mrs. K— declares, she is so amazed at (she must say) the wicked treatment she has met with for some time past from Miss W—s, and the exceeding untruths they have uttered to her, and still more cruelly have thrown out, with intention (it must be supposed) to vilify a character, which, she thanks God, bears witness to itself of entire innocence of every charge they have thought fit to heap against her.

Mrs. K— calls upon them, to prove that she ever defrauded her mother, that she ever with-held any property of their's—Imperious women, what right have you to imprison your mother? or to say, who shall, or who shall not see her? Mrs. K— did give Mrs. W— a paper to peruse, but read every word of it aloud to mother and daughters, then gave it before them to be considered. Mrs. W— also gave Mrs. K— a letter of attorney, they thought fit to inspect, (she presumes) when they would not allow it to be brought; however, is determined, please God she gets to Ireland, that all Mrs. W—'s accounts shall be settled and made clear, and then directed by her into whose hands she must put them: she is too severely galled, to leave the least open for being vilified and persecuted as she has been. Mrs. W— she knows to be incapable of acting such a part. Mrs. K— too, is charged by these women, to have made mischief between their mother and them: let this be proved also; and let it be set forth from what source that mischief sprung; was it not from fraudulently with-holding their mother's letter which she sent to Mrs. K—? The paragraph which finishes their *notable message* is, "They will give no letters nor papers to Mrs. W— without knowing the contents."—Sure this is unparalleled! what privilege can daughters have to treat a parent in this tyrannic and despotic manner?—*She should* indeed petition the *Lord Chancellor*.—And dare you with-hold your uncle's letter which he sent by me to your mother? Did you not say her £500 was not properly secured to her? and

is

is he not to have liberty to clear up that matter to your mother, tho' he writes to do so? You must tell him* in what thralldom you keep her, and that she is still ignorant of the contents of his letter, which he put into Mrs. K—'s hands to give to Mrs. W—.

April the 12th, 1776.

LETTER CXXX.

WHEN reduced to the disagreeable alternative of distressing a parent, labouring under an unhappy malady, distressing her, perhaps, beyond the possibility of again restoring her to peace: I say, when reduced to the alternative of either doing this, or breaking through those forms which custom has prescribed, and which, in all other cases, I am very willing to submit to, can I hesitate one moment which part I am to act? I cannot but think myself at least as well entitled to refuse admission to any person or letter, likely to interfere with my mother's health or quiet, as Miss W---d was to restrain us from speaking of our own concerns; I think too, that no person really my mother's friend, would try to foment differences between her and her daughters. As to what I dare, I trust I shall always dare to do every thing consistent with my duty to my Maker, that can promote my mother's interest, or preserve her peace. My sister and I are ready to answer any charge that can be brought against us, conscious that we have not done any thing we have reason to be afraid or ashamed of you or the world knowing.

I am, Madam,

April 13th, 1776.

M. W.

LETTER

* DEAR SIR,

I Have a letter from you, I believe it is directed to my mother: but as she has not for several years met with so many interruptions to her quiet as she has this last winter, I was fearful of giving it, lest it might occasion her fresh disturbance. After much deliberation I at last determined upon writing to inform you, that I shall take the liberty of reading your letter, and if I find it tend to promote her happiness, shall give it to my mother, with the greatest pleasure; but if I think it likely to interfere with that cheerfulness, the loss of which I so lately lamented, and which is but just now restored, you must excuse,

Sir, your dutiful niece,

April 7th, 1776.

M— W—.

LETTER CXXXI.

MRS. K— has Mrs. M. W—'s of the 13th instant, in answer to her's of the 12th instant, which she expected should have been closer kept to, if they have such things to charge Mrs K— with as they, or rather, M. W. more commonly has thrown out, that Mrs. K— had defrauded her mother, had kept from her daughters their right, (and its said in town I hear,) that from this cause, Mrs. W. and her daughters' distress was so great, as to stimulate folks abroad, and little connected, to send a *joint of meat now and then for their subsistence; who must Mrs. K— apply to for the author of these stories? Mrs. K— has it under Mrs. M. W. hand, that mischief has been made by *her* between Mrs. W. and her *daughters*; again she desires this to be proved, and how that mischief came to be made too; let it be clearly done, as well as the other charges; not in the jesuitical manner in which Mrs. M. W. answer to Mrs. K—'s most self-justifying and reasonable demand of proof, to allegations highly prejudicial to a character of integrity, which Mrs. K— has always meant to support, and trusts in God it will be found she hath done so. She wants to know of this woman of fine sentiment, is it but in compliance to "form and custom" that near and dear relations associate, and render obliging curties to each other? and asks these imperious, self-approved women, who pretend to be linked and attached so closely, how they can be so blind to the hardship they put upon Mrs. K— in shutting her out from all intercourse (either personal or by letter) with an equally regarded (and deserving) sister? It is most arbitrary, tyrannical treatment.

Mrs. K— trusts, ere long, a method will be found, to release poor Mrs. W— from the unjust and unwarrantable imprisonment which her daughters impose, and for what? to prevent Mrs. K—'s base designs from taking place: Lord help the poor deluded women; if they are sound in their minds, their conduct is amazing. Mrs. K. insists upon having her letter directed to her by Miss T—. Sure they are unparalleled liberties to open letters directed to others, and to with-hold those we know don't belong to us; yet one

* This mean insinuation, without the smallest foundation in truth, does not deserve a comment.

one of Mrs. M. W—'s charges against Mrs. K— is, "that she has treated Mrs. W— as if she was incapable of judging for herself."*

Bath, April the 22d, 1776.

L E T T E R CXXXII.

MRS. K— thinks Mrs. M. W— was never more called upon to consult her lawyer of integrity, provided he knows what *laws are*, than now; ask him if [†]opening letters directed to others, and also detaining[‡] those we know belongs to others, is not punishable and highly penal; again desires to have her letter which Miss T— has sent her? Was there ever a poorer subterfuge[§] than Mrs. M. W. wrote to Mrs. ——— it is indeed straining at a knat, but swallowing a camel,

April the 24th.

* To Mrs. ———.

DEAR MADAM,

THE inclosed is an exact copy of a letter I received from Mrs. K—. I then sent word it did not require an answer, thinking, I confess, it did not merit one. It has since occurred to me, that I would consult you, and be governed by your advice. I beg you will favour me with your opinion, whether I had best answer it, or not; and you will very much oblige,

April 24th, 1776.

DEAR MADAM,
Your, &c. M. W—.

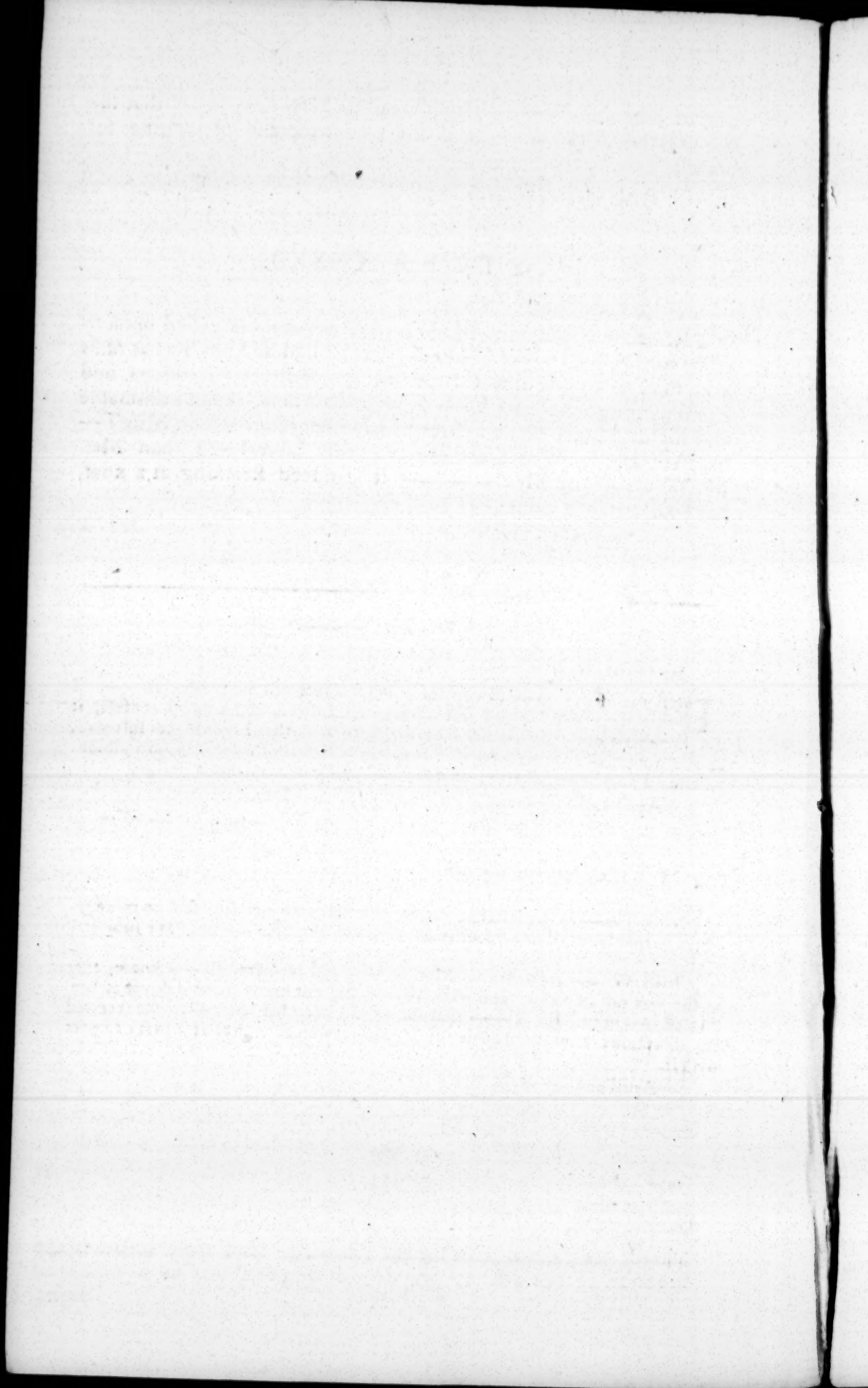
† My uncle's letter to my mother.

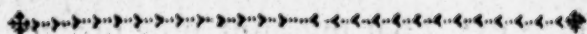
‡ Miss T— in her letter to me, in which it came inclosed, said no more relative to that letter, than, "I intend to write to Mrs. K— upon the subject."

§ Miss W— requests that Mrs. ——— will let Mrs. K— know, that as she was not in town, and Miss W— did not know how to direct to her, M. W— told Miss T— that she would keep her letter until she received her directions how to dispose of it, and therefore is not at liberty to part with it.

April 22d, 1776.







To J—— K——, Esq.

DEAR SIR,

AS it would be always my choice to err on the right side: to do more than may be thought necessary, rather than appear the least deficient, I think it best to apprize you (though I do not look upon it as a matter of the smallest consequence to you) that I have introduced into the publication, some of my letters to you, and part of your answers, in order to do justice to myself, by setting some circumstances in the clearest light. I am, sir, &c.

21st March, 1776.

M. W.

To J—— K——, Esq.

S I R,

I Will not trouble you with an impertinent preamble, but proceed immediately to business: My aunt complains of my letters, and I of her's. I told you I would not quarrel about words, and am ready on my part, to forget every thing of that kind which has passed; and with regard to my own letters, whenever she points out any indecent or unsuitable expressions, will beg her pardon.

I now come to what is more material; and as we have been a great deal trifled with, our lives rendered very uneasy, by having our right disputed to almost every thing we have, we flatter ourselves you will not think us unreasonable; if we propose, as terms of accommodation, that you and my aunt will bind yourselves under an obligation (of what nature we leave to yourselves, provided it be adequate to the purpose) that, as far as ye can influence, we shall have strict justice done us, my mother as well as ourselves; That, until my aunt has given in accounts, she do not ask my mother for a new power of attorney, nor even take one, should my mother give it; as my sister and I will have no objection when the accounts are settled; to my mother's sending my aunt a letter of attorney, however unlimited, provided it leaves her and her executors accountable to my mother and her heirs; That as my mother is not well, and so extremely close, that all she hears is as if it were buried, we cannot give up the knowing, from time to time, the situation of her affairs; we do not demand this as a matter of right,

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right, but are willing to consider it an obligation, and confess we are at a loss to account how we have forfeited this privilege, when she once allowed it to us; That my aunt now prosecutes the renewal of Capel-street concern, with more vigour than she has hitherto done; That we be made acquainted with all the transactions relative to it; That every thing be done open and above board, so as to secure us from future litigations; and that, when that renewal has taken place, and my mother's affairs are settled, should she live on in the very contracted way she does now, it shall be considered, that it is neither eligible nor reasonable, that we should be debarred of the necessaries or comforts of life, merely that it may be said at my mother's death, she had saved an amazing sum;* That you fulfill all your engagements to us, the £400, Stoney-batter, &c. That as these unhappy differences have occasioned a distance between my much valued friends Mr. and Mrs. — and I, my conduct may be represented in such a light to them, as to restore me to their good opinion; and that my aunt declare before such witnesses as shall be agreed on between us, that I have not been guilty of any thing that could bring discredit upon my family or myself. If these conditions are subscribed to, so as that we can depend upon their being adhered to, I shall then be happy in subscribing myself my aunt's, and

Sir,

Your much obliged,

Dutiful and affectionate niece,

M. W.

May 3d, 1776.

To J—— K——, Esq.

DEAR SIR,

ALTHOUGH I did not think well to bind myself to depend upon your promises, you having refused to bind yourself under any other obligation, I have hitherto stood suspended to see what those promises would produce. They have yet produced nothing, except my being threatened with your displeasure if I was not reconciled to my aunt; but as I have no idea of acting upon so slavish a principle, think it best to inform you, that I will wait no longer than until next Monday, will then prosecute my former intention with the utmost expedition.

I am, sir, &c.

May 20th, 1776.

M. W.

DEAR

DEAR NIECE,

I Am quite at a loss for the meaning of part of your letter 20th May, and wish you had been more explicit, and less liberal of your reproach. You cannot be more anxious to have every thing settled than I am, and heartily wish it could be done to-morrow. I have a letter from N—, who promises to send the papers as soon as he can get a frank; and says, had you informed him what he was to have done with your interest money, whether remitted you or paid it in Dublin, he would have acted accordingly. By your threatening, I must conclude, you think me of the slavish disposition you say you detest. If those are your thoughts, you mistake my character. I laugh at your threats. Could our differences be brought to an issue, without subjecting any of the parties to the censure of ill-natured acquaintance, I would rejoice in the event, and forward it with all my might; but as the reverse must be the consequence, I wish to have all private disputes buried in oblivion. If I have mistaken your letter in any particular, I would be glad to be set right; or if you would have the £200 paid in only? say your likeing. Love to sister and S—. I am, &c.

London, 23d May, 1776.

J. K.

To J——K——, Esq.

DEAR SIR,

I Received your's. Cannot conceive what you call being liberal of my reproach; am equally at a loss what part of my letter you did not think sufficiently explicit: had you pointed it out, I would have endeavoured to explain it. You cannot be so anxious as I am to have things settled; you are not so much interested in a settlement; if you were, it would have taken place long since; or if you are anxious, why are you not open in declaring what is to be settled? I would not willingly suspect you of seeking to draw me in to impose upon myself; yet, what can I think of your mysterious manner of writing? Can any of the parties be in greater danger of censure, from such a settlement as will secure to my mother and us the quiet possession of that we have an equitable right to, than from the P——? Whatever you may think of me, I am not ill-natured enough to wish to expose any body unne-

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cessarily

cessarily to censure; but ought not to sacrifice the interest or happiness of my mother and sister, to screen those who possibly may have incurred it. Why must we suffer for the faults of others? I did not mean to threaten, but to inform you of my intention, and to be satisfied what I had to expect. I am, sir, &c. M. W.

I shall be glad to have the money paid in.

May 25th, 1776.

DEAR NIECE,

LATE yesterday I received your letter, dated 25th May, and this day wrote to N. W—d, to pay into Messrs. —'s bank, your £200, with interest to the day, and take up my note.

I have hardly time to tell you I am going into the country, my affairs there make my presence absolutely necessary; I shall return to London in eight or ten days; for the present, you have an answer to that which is most material in your letter. My love to sister and S—. I am your &c.

London, 28th May, 1776.

J. K.

To J— K—, Esq.

DEAR SIR,

I Received your letter of May 28th, and must say, that although our affairs are not so considerable as your's, they are of equal consequence to us as your's to you. Should your neglect of us be attended with unpleasing consequences, you will do me the justice to allow they are altogether owing to yourself, and that no part of the blame belongs to, Sir, your dutiful niece,

May 30th, 1776.

M. W.

DEAR NIECE,

I Received your letter 30th May, while in the country. I am sorry to find you expect my whole attention should be directed to your affairs, and seem to think me answerable for the neglects of others, which is highly unreasonable; as you observe in one of your

your letters, "why must we suffer for the faults of others?" I think, I may with equal justice make the same reply. I did not mean to be mysterious, nor had I a thought of drawing you in to impose on yourself. The settlement between us, is your grandfather's legatee; I do not know of any thing else; and thought, you (to that) could not be a stranger. I have had two letters from N—; he has found your receipts, and my note; but P— being out of town, he could not get the form of a discharge from my sister and you to my father's executors. I will write to N— this night or to-morrow. You tell me "you did not mean to threaten, but to inform me of your intention, to be satisfied what you had to expect." If you mean respecting the disagreement between sister K— and you, you cannot be ignorant of my sentiments, as I have long since declared them to you, and very candidly; or has any thing since occurred, to induce me to alter my opinion? As to the P—, I would not give you five shillings to draw you from your purpose, even were I the only one concerned. When I have the before-mentioned papers from P— and N—, with a confirmation of your £200, and interest to the day, being paid into Messrs. —'s house, you may depend on it, there shall not be any delay on my part. Love to sister and S—. I am, &c.

London, 14th June, 1776.

J. K.

To J— K—, Esq.

DEAR SIR,

I Received your's of the 14th, think it was very unnecessary to wait for Mr. P—; for when the legacy bequeathed to me by your father and my grandfather, is paid in, and the old receipt ready to be given up, I will get a proper discharge drawn by an attorney here, and sign it, but first it is necessary that I should see the will,* or an authentic copy of it. You promised to send us the copy that has the probate to it. I am glad you are so indifferent about the publication. If any must suffer, I think it should be for their own faults, not those of other people. I am,

June 16th, 1776.

Sir, &c.

M. W.

To

To J—— W——, Esq.

SIR,
BEING about to publish my aunt's letters and my own, I think it necessary to apprize you, that you may not have the least reason to charge me with acting ungenerously, that your name is frequently mentioned in them. I have not yet determined in what manner I shall treat the names of other people, but your's shall be printed at full length. You are sensible you are not intitled to any favour from, Sir,

Jan. 6th, 1776. M. W.

[I wrote to the same purpose, Feb. the 5th. No answer.]

To E—— W——d, Esq.

SIR,
AS I heartily despise all mean under-hand proceedings, and would rather suffer by a contrary conduct, than thrive by that; I cannot bear the imputation of doing any thing, that I wanted courage openly to avow. I give you this trouble, to inform you, that I have introduced into the publication of my aunt's letters and mine, some of your's, relative to Mr. H——'s bill, Stony-batter, &c. Not knowing how to direct to your sister, I beg you will let her know I have taken that liberty with her's she allowed me.

April 3d, 1776. I am, sir, &c. M. W.

No Answer.

* We never saw it.

† Mr. W—— has never paid the remainder of the legacies, nor my aunt W——'s bond; nor does he even pay the interest.



F I N I S.

E R R A T A.

Page 7, to the Note add, p. 93 and p. 98.

p. 40, l. 37, instead of Mr. K—, *read*, Mr. H—.

p. 45, Note. Instead of letter 29, *read*, letter 26.

p. 56, l. 10, *read*, £12 12 6.

p. 66, Note. *Read*, Mr. K——'s letter.

p. 78, the two last lines, *read*, "it cannot affect her much. When
" it is likely to do so, she may draw it out."

p. 89, Note, l. 2, *read*, for the rent of them premisses. /

p. 104, l. 36. for trash, *read*, train.

p. 116, Note 1, for letter 38, *read*, letter 51.

p. 139, l. 19, *read*, "if you would have the £200 paid in only say
" your liking."